

09-10

Ocean Sport Fishing Regulations

Effective

March 1, 2009 - February 28, 2010
unless otherwise noted herein.

State of California

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

Fish and Game Commission

Ms. Cindy Gustafson, President
Mr. Jim Kellogg, Vice President
Mr. Richard B. Rogers, Member
Mr. Michael Sutton, Member
Mr. Daniel W. Richards, Member
Mr. John Carlson, Jr., Executive Director

Department of Fish and Game

Donald Koch, Director

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FORTHCOMING SUPPLEMENT

A supplement updating the regulations contained in this booklet may be released in May 2009. The supplement is produced to update the ocean and inland salmon regulations and any regulations that have changed since the publication of the 2009-2010 Ocean Sport Fishing regulation booklet.

The supplement will not include the complete set of regulations contained in Ocean Sport Fishing regulation booklet, so please retain this booklet.

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**July 4, 2009
and
Sept. 7, 2009**



FREE FISHING DAYS!

On these days only, ALL regulations apply and report cards are now required - but NO license is required for sport fishing.

How To Use This Book

Start by reading through the Table of Contents on page 1: find and refer to the topic and page that interests you. License information and definitions are found in the front of the book. If you need further information about the regulations, or have general questions, contact the Department of Fish and Game.

Visit the Department of Fish and Game's home page at:

www.dfg.ca.gov

and/or the Department's Marine Region home page at:

www.dfg.ca.gov/marine

Marine Region

Encompassing the entire California coastline from border to border and three nautical miles out to sea

Field Offices and Region Headquarters:

619 2nd Street, Eureka 95501
(707) 445-6493

19160 South Harbor Drive
Fort Bragg 95437
(Licenses are not sold at this location)
(707) 964-9078

1850 Bay Flat Road, P.O. Box 1560
Bodega Bay 94923
(Licenses are not sold at this location)
(707) 875-4260

350 Harbor Boulevard, Belmont 94002
(Licenses are not sold at this location)
(650) 631-7730

Marine Region Headquarters
20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100
Monterey 93940
(831) 649-2870

1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9
Santa Barbara 93109
(Licenses are not sold at this location)
(805) 568-1231

4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C
Los Alamitos 90720
(562) 342-7100

4949 Viewridge Avenue, San Diego 92123
(858) 467-4201

License and Revenue Branch

1740 N. Market Blvd. Sacramento 95834
(916) 928-5805

Bay Delta Region

Encompassing the following counties:
Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, Solano, Sonoma, and Yolo
7329 Silverado Trail, Napa 94558
(707) 944-5500

Northern Region

Encompassing the following counties:
Del Norte, Humboldt, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity
601 Locust Street, Redding 96001
(530) 225-2300

North-Central Region

Encompassing the following counties:
Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Lake, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba
1701 Nimbus Road
Rancho Cordova 95670
(916) 358-2900

Central Region

Encompassing the following counties:
Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne
1234 E. Shaw Avenue, Fresno 93710
(559) 243-4005 x 151

South Coast Region

Encompassing the following counties:
Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura
4949 Viewridge Avenue, San Diego 92123
(858) 467-4201
Enforcement inquiries for this region should be directed to the Ontario office

Inland Deserts Region

Encompassing the following counties:
Imperial, Inyo, Mono, Riverside, and San Bernardino
3602 Inland Empire Blvd, Suite C220
Ontario 91764
(Licenses are not sold at this location)
(909) 484-0167

Headquarters

Box 944209, Sacramento 94244-2090
(916) 653-7664

License Information

Residency

A resident is defined as any person who has resided continuously in California for six months or more immediately before the date of application for a license, or persons on active military duty with the armed forces of the United States or an auxiliary branch or Job Corps enrollees.

License Provisions

Anyone 16 years and older must have a fishing license to take any kind of fish, mollusk, invertebrate, amphibian or crustacean in California, except for persons fishing from a public pier in ocean or bay waters. A license is required to take reptiles, except for rattlesnakes.

A sport fishing license is valid for a calendar year.

Additional stamps and cards are required to fish in certain areas or to target certain species. Anglers who are not required to have a sport fishing license, such as anglers who are under 16 years of age, anglers who will be fishing from a public pier in ocean or bay waters and anglers who will be fishing on Free Fishing Days, are required to have report cards to fish for: abalone, spiny lobster and sturgeon.

An **Abalone Report Card** is required for any person taking abalone.

A free **Sturgeon Fishing Report Card** is required for any person taking sturgeon.

A **Spiny Lobster Report Card** is required for any person taking spiny lobster.

An **Ocean Enhancement Stamp** is required for ocean fishing south of Point Arguello. Anglers fishing under the authority of a One or Two-Day Sport Fishing License are exempt from the Ocean Enhancement Stamp requirement.

A **Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp** is required for fishing in the tidal waters of San Francisco Bay east of the Golden Gate Bridge, including San Pablo Bay, Carquinez Strait, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Anglers fishing under the authority of a One or Two-Day Sport Fishing License are exempt from the Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp requirement.

Note: A Salmon Report Card is no longer required for anglers fishing for salmon in ocean waters north of Horse Mountain.

Refund Policy

Refunds will not be issued for sport fishing licenses, stamps and report cards. These items are considered in use from the date issued and, therefore, are non-refundable. For further information, contact the License and Revenue Branch at (916) 928-5805 or email lrb@dfg.ca.gov.

Section 700(a). Display of Sport Fishing License (Title 14, California Code of Regulations)

Every person, while engaged in taking any fish, invertebrate [including mollusks and crustaceans], amphibian, or reptile shall display their valid sport fishing license by attaching it to their outer clothing at or above the waistline so that it is plainly visible, except when diving as provided in Section 7145 of the Fish and Game Code.

Persons diving from a boat or shore may have their license on the boat or within 500 yards on the shore, respectively (see Fish and Game Code Section 7145).

Regulations provide that a person may purchase a hunting or sport fishing license, tags, or stamps for another person, as long as the application contains the licensee's true name and address. Regulations require that prior to using any license or license stamps, the licensee shall complete the application so that it contains the licensee's true name, residence address, date of birth, height, color of eyes and hair, weight, and sex.

Free and Reduced-fee Licenses

Free and reduced-fee sport fishing licenses are available to eligible persons. For example, reduced-fee fishing licenses are available to certain low-income seniors at least 65 years of age, and honorably discharged veterans with a service-connected disability of at least 50 percent. Free fishing licenses are available to eligible persons who are blind; low-income American Indians; developmentally disabled persons, and residents who are so severely physically disabled that they are permanently unable to move from place to place without the use of a wheelchair, walker, forearm crutches, or a comparable mobility-related device. Proof of eligibility for all free and reduced-fee licenses is required. For more information about reduced-fee and free fishing licenses, contact the nearest Department of Fish and Game license sales office.

Ocean Sport Fishing License Fees

<u>Annual Licenses</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Resident Sport Fishing License	41.20
Non-Resident Sport Fishing License	110.80
Duplicate (Annual licenses only)	9.20

<u>Short-Term Licenses</u>	
One-Day Sport Fishing License***	13.40
Two-Day Sport Fishing License**	20.75
Ten-Day Non-Resident Sport Fishing License*	41.20

<u>Stamps</u>	
Sport Ocean Enhancement Stamp	4.75
Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp	6.30

<u>Report Cards</u>	
Abalone Report Card	19.70
Spiny Lobster Report Card	8.40
Sturgeon Fishing Report Card	Free

The above fees include a 5% license agent handling fee.

<u>Other Permits</u>	
Declaration for Multi-day Fishing Trip	5.25

*Valid for ten consecutive calendar days.

**May be purchased by residents or non-residents. Valid for two consecutive calendar days.

***May be purchased by residents or non-residents.

If you lose your annual fishing license, take your Department-issued Application for Duplicate Fishing License (the one that came with your license) to any agent selling fishing licenses. Present the application and pay the appropriate fee to receive a duplicate fishing license. If you lose your application or your duplicate fishing license, you must purchase another license at full price.

<u>Lifetime Sport Fishing Licenses</u>	
Age 9 years or younger	459.25
Age 10 to 39 years	754.75
Age 40 to 61 years	679.50
Age 62 years or older	459.25
Additional Lifetime Fishing Privileges (includes Second-Rod Stamp, Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp, Ocean Enhancement Stamp, Klamath-Trinity Salmon Report Card and Steelhead Report Card)	308.50

Public Participation in the Commission's Regulatory Process

The Fish and Game Commission is composed of five members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate. The Commission sets hunting and sport fishing regulations including seasons, bag limits, methods and areas of take. In addition, the Commission formulates general policies for the Department of Fish and Game and regulates aspects of commercial fishing. Regular meetings are held to hear regulation change proposals. The public may make recommendations in writing before a Commission meeting or present proposals verbally at the meeting. The Commission's meeting schedule, including specific topics, dates, and locations, is posted on their Web site at www.fgc.ca.gov. Written comments may be directed to the Fish and Game Commission at 1416 Ninth St., Rm. 1320, Sacramento CA 95814, or by e-mail at fgc@fgc.ca.gov.

What's New For 2009

New Dungeness Crab Opening Date North of the Mendocino-Sonoma County Border (effective Nov. 1, 2008)

The opening date for the Dungeness crab season has changed from the last Saturday in November to the first Saturday in November north of the Mendocino-Sonoma County border. The change creates a single opening date for Dungeness crab season, statewide.

New Groundfish Bag Limits (effective March 1, 2009)

- Bocaccio: 2 fish, statewide
- Cabezon: 2 fish, statewide
- Bronzespotted rockfish: 0 fish (no retention) statewide

New Groundfish Management Areas

The North-Central Management Area has been divided into two distinct regions: the North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area, for waters between 40°10' North latitude, and Point Arena (38°57'50 North latitude) as described in Section 27.30; and the North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area, for waters between Point Arena and Pigeon Point (37°11' North latitude). Splitting the former North-Central Management Area into two regions will allow for different regulations north and south of Point Arena, and allow for finer-scale regional management.

Elimination of Gear Restrictions When Fishing for Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" (Effective March 1, 2009)

Gear restrictions have been eliminated for sanddab and "other flatfish" during the closed season for rockfish, lingcod and associated species. Specifically, anglers are no longer limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to two pounds of weight when fishing for sanddab and "other flatfish" during the closed season for groundfish.

Information on Groundfish Emergency Closures

Groundfish fishery regulations are adaptive and can change during the year. Anglers are advised that possible emergency action in 2009 may modify regulations in California to minimize the likelihood of exceeding harvest limits (see pg. 6 to keep informed). The following sections define the groundfish that may be affected by regulation changes:

- Section 1.90. Nearshore Fish Stocks, Nearshore Fisheries, Nearshore Waters, and Shallow Nearshore Rockfish Defined (see pg. 26)
- Section 1.91. Federal Groundfish and Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling (RCG Complex) (see pg. 26).

Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please access one of the sources on the following page for up-to-date information concerning season dates, allowed fishing depths, and other regulations.

Help Fish and Game Wardens Put an End to Poaching

If you see someone poaching or polluting, call CalTIP
at our toll-free number, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Together we can make a difference!

1- 888 - DFG - CalTIP
(1- 888 - 334 - 2258)



Keeping Up With In-Season Regulation Changes

Recreational groundfish fishing regulations are adaptive and based on the latest information about the fishery. Therefore, the Department of Fish and Game director can change state groundfish regulations during the year to conform to changes in federal regulations. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please access one of the following sources for up-to-date information concerning season dates, allowed fishing depths, and other regulations:

- ❖ **Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801** for the latest groundfish regulations.
- ❖ Check the **Department's News Room at www.dfg.ca.gov/news** or the Marine Region News Page at **www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/news.asp**.
- ❖ Go to **www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/subscribe.asp** and **sign up for e-mail notification** of in-season regulation changes.
- ❖ Call or drop by your local Marine Region Department office (see page 2) for the latest information before heading out on a fishing trip.

Section 27.20(e) describes the process the department follows to enact in-season regulation adjustments for groundfish:

"Fishery closure and/or rule change: When the department determines, based on the best available scientific information, that an annual harvest limit [optimum yield (OY), recreational harvest guideline, or recreational harvest target] established in regulation by the NOAA Fisheries (National Marine Fisheries Service) for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species has been exceeded or is projected to be exceeded prior to the end of the year or that catches are less than predicted, the following rule changes may occur:

(1) The department may modify the seasons and/or depth constraints for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Season and/or depth modifications may differ by Groundfish Management Area, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(2) The department may adjust existing bag or sub-bag limits or establish additional bag or sub-bag limits as needed for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Bag limits may differ by Groundfish Management Area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(3) The department may adjust existing size limits or establish additional size limits as needed for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Size limits may differ by Groundfish Management Area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized."

Section 27.20(f) describes how the department notifies the federal government and the public of in-season changes to groundfish fishing regulations:

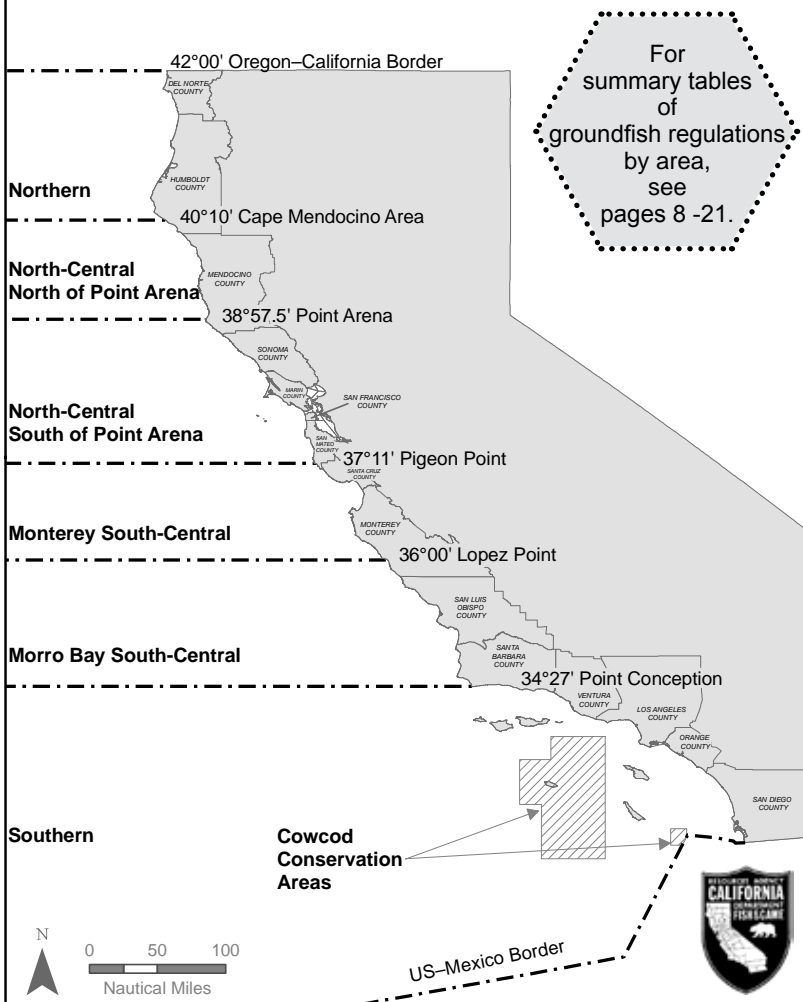
"Notice of closure and/or rule change: The department shall give the public and the National Marine Fisheries Service no less than 10 calendar days' notice of any fishery closure or rule change implemented pursuant to this Section via a department news release. Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's Web site at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office."

Note: "Federal Groundfish" is defined in Section 1.91 (pg. 26).

Groundfish Management Areas for 2009

Note: Groundfish regulations may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please access one of the sources listed on page 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

Seven recreational groundfish management areas have been established by the Fish and Game Commission and the Pacific Fishery Management Council. Each area has a different set of groundfish regulations tailored to meet regional needs.



Map Created by California Department of Fish and Game, Groundfish Project

M. Michie, J. S.-Da Silva 2/09

Groundfish Management Area map available online at
www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/groundfishcentral/map.asp

Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2009

Northern Management Area

Ocean waters between 42°00' N. latitude (CA-OR Border) and 40°10' N. latitude (near Cape Mendocino)

Includes all of Del Norte County and most of Humboldt County

Note: Regulations in the table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review one of the sources listed in Footnote 2 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

Species	Time Period ^{2, 3}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 2, 4}
RCG Complex (including all species of Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenlings)	<u>Boat-based Anglers³:</u> Open: May 15–Sept 15 Closed: Jan 1–May 14 Sept 16–Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³:</u> Open year-round	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 120 ft (20 fm) deep <i>SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE</i>	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary, Yelloweye, Cowcod, and Bronzespotted Rockfishes	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabezon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Lingcod	<u>Boat-based Anglers³:</u> Open: May 15–Sept 15 Closed: Jan 1–May 14, Sept 16–Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³:</u> Open: Apr 1–Nov 30 Closed: Jan 1–Mar 31, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length
Leopard Shark ⁵	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within Humboldt Bay:</u> Open all year <u>Outside of Humboldt Bay:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> Open all year	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within Humboldt Bay:</u> No depth restrictions <u>Outside of Humboldt Bay:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> No depth restrictions	3 fish per person	36" total length

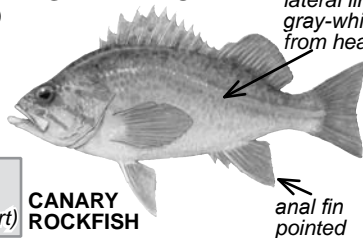
Species	Time Period ^{2, 3}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 2, 4}
Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" ⁶ (see Section 28.48)	OPEN all year ⁶	None ⁶	See Section 28.48	See Section 28.48
Other Federal Groundfish (see Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.
 2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.
 3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). However, when spearfishing during a boat-based closure, only spearfishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:
 - Boat-based anglers are fishermen angling from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
 - Shore-based anglers are fishermen angling from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore.
 - Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.
 4. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A finfish and shellfish measurement illustration is provided in this booklet.
 5. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside Humboldt Bay is exempt from season and depth restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish.
 6. In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in Section 1.91(a)(10)) may be taken.
- EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See sub-section 27.20(b).

CANARY ROCKFISH may be mistaken for VERMILION ROCKFISH !

CANARY ROCKFISH MAY NOT BE RETAINED

chin feels smooth



lateral line is colorless.
gray-white band extends
from head to tail

tail fin
slightly
forked

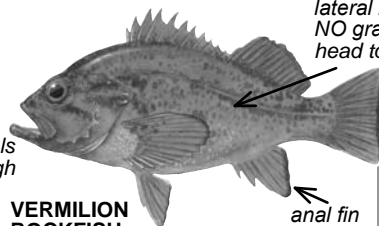
anal fin
pointed

BODY COLOR
Orange
(see full color insert)

**CANARY
ROCKFISH**

**KNOW
YOUR
ROCKFISH!**

chin feels rough



lateral line HAS color.
NO gray-white band from
head to tail

tail fin
edge
straight

anal fin
rounded

**VERMILION
ROCKFISH**

BODY COLOR
Orange to Red
(see full color insert)

Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2009 North-Central North of Point Arena Management Area

Ocean waters between 40°10' N. latitude (near Cape Mendocino) and 38° 57.5' N. latitude (Point Arena)

Includes Mendocino County and a portion of Humboldt County

Note: Regulations in the table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review one of the sources listed in Footnote 2 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

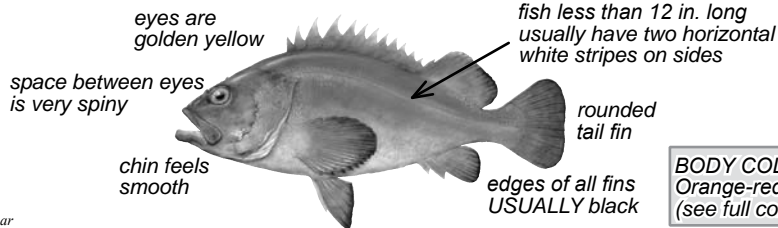
Species	Time Period ^{2, 3}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 2, 4}
RCG Complex (including all species of Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenlings)	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: May 15-Aug 15 Closed: Jan 1-May 14, Aug 16-Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open year-round	May only be taken or possessed in waters less than 120 ft (20 fm) deep ⁴ SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary, Yelloweye, Cowcod, and Bronzespotted Rockfishes	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabezon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Lingcod	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: May 15-Aug 15 Closed: Jan 1-May 14, Aug 16-Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: Apr 1-Nov 30 Closed: Jan 1-Mar 31, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length

Species	Time Period ^{2, 3}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 2, 4}
Leopard Shark ⁷	Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers</u> ⁷ : Open all year	Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers</u> ⁷ : No depth restrictions	3 fish per person	36" total length
Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" ⁵ (see Section 28.48)	OPEN all year ⁵	None ⁵	See Section 28.48	See Section 28.48
Other Federal Groundfish (see Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.
2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.
3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). However, when spearfishing during a boat-based closure, only spearfishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:
 - Boat-based anglers are fishermen angling from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
 - Shore-based anglers are fishermen angling from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore.
 - Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.
4. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A finfish and shellfish measurement illustration is provided in this booklet.
5. In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in Section 1.91(a) (10)) may be taken.
EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See sub-section 27.20(b).

**YELLOW EYE
ROCKFISH MAY
NOT BE RETAINED
IN CALIFORNIA
IN 2009**

original full-color fish illustration by Amadeo Bachar



Use these features to correctly identify yelloweye **rockfish**

BODY COLOR
Orange-red to Red
(see full color insert)

Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2009 North-Central South of Point Arena Management Area

*Ocean waters between 38° 57.5' N. latitude (Point Arena) and 37° 11' N. latitude (near Pigeon Point)
Includes Sonoma, Marin, San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, most of San Mateo County
and a portion of Mendocino County*

Note: Regulations in the table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review one of the sources listed in Footnote 2 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

Species	Time Period ^{2, 3, 6}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3, 4, 6}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 2, 5}
RCG Complex (including all species of Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenlings)	<u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> : Open: June 13- Oct 31 Closed: Jan 1-June 12, Nov 1-Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³</u> : Open year-round	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than 180 ft (30 fm) deep</i> ⁴ SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary, Yelloweye, Cowcod, and Bronzespotted Rockfishes	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabezon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Lingcod	<u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> : Open: June 13-Oct 31 Closed: Jan 1-June 12, Nov 1-Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³</u> : Open: Apr 1-Nov 30 Closed: Jan 1-Mar 31, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length

Species	Time Period ^{2, 3, 6}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3, 4, 6}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 2, 5}
Leopard Shark ⁷	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within San Francisco Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Bolinas Bay, and Drake's Estero Bay:</u> Open all year <u>Outside of the previously mentioned bays:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> Open all year	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within San Francisco Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Bolinas Bay, and Drake's Estero Bay:</u> No depth restrictions <u>Outside of the previously mentioned bays:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> No depth restrictions	3 fish per person	36" total length
Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" ⁶ (see Section 28.48, pg. 39)	OPEN all year ⁶	None ⁶	See Section 28.48	See Section 28.48
Other Federal Groundfish (see Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57

- See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.
- Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.
- Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). However, when spearfishing during a boat-based closure, only spearfishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:
 - Boat-based anglers are fishermen angling from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
 - Shore-based anglers are fishermen angling from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore.
 - Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.
- Waters less than 10 fathoms (60 ft.) in depth around the Farallon Islands and Noonday Rock are closed at all times for all groundfish species. Waters of Cordell Bank less than 100 fathoms (600 ft.) in depth are closed at all times for all groundfish species except Pacific sanddabs and "Other Flatfish". Divers and shore-based anglers are not exempt from these area closures. See Section 27.30(b)(4) and Section 27.30(b)(5) for more information.
- Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A finfish and shellfish measurement illustration is provided in this booklet.
- In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in Section 1.91(a)(10)) may be taken. This exception does not apply in waters less than 10 fm deep off the Farallon Islands and Noonday Rock.
- The sport fishery for leopard shark inside San Francisco Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Bolinas Bay, and Drake's Estero Bay is exempt from season and depth restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish.
 EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See sub-section 27.20(b).

Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2009 Monterey South-Central Management Area

*Ocean waters between 37°11' N. latitude (Pigeon Point) and 36°00' N. latitude (near Lopez Point)
Includes a portion of San Mateo County, all of Santa Cruz County, and a portion of Monterey County*

Note: Regulations in the table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review one of the sources listed in Footnote 2 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

Species	Time Period ^{2,3}	Depth Limit ^{2,3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1,2,4}
RCG Complex (including all species of Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenlings)	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: May 1-Nov 15 Closed: Jan 1-April 30, Nov 16-Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open year-round	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 240 ft (40 fm) deep SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub- limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary, Yelloweye, Cowcod and Bronzespotted Rockfishes	CLOSED all year		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabezon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Ocean Whitefish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	10 fish per person	None
California Sheephead	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	5 fish per person	12" total length
California Scorpionfish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	5 fish per person	10" total length

Species	Time Period ^{2,3}	Depth Limit ^{2,3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1,2,4}
Lingcod	<u>Boat-based Anglers³:</u> Open: May 1-Nov 15 Closed: Jan 1-April 30, Nov 16-Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³:</u> Open: April 1-Nov 30 Closed: Jan 1-Mar 31, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length
Leopard Shark ⁵	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within Elkhorn Slough:</u> Open all year <u>Outside of Elkhorn Slough:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> Open all year	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within Elkhorn Slough:</u> No depth restrictions <u>Outside of Elkhorn Slough:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> No depth restrictions	3 fish per person	36" total length
Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" ⁶ (see Section 28.48)	OPEN all year ⁶	None ⁶	See Section 28.48	See Section 28.48
Other Federal Groundfish (see Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.

2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.

3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex, ocean whitefish, California scorpionfish, California sheephead, and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). However, when spearfishing during a boat-based closure, only spearfishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:

- Boat-based anglers are fishermen angling from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
- Shore-based anglers are fishermen angling from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore.
- Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.

4. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A finfish and shellfish measurement illustration is provided in this booklet.

5. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside Elkhorn Slough is exempt from season and depth restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish.

6. In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in Section 1.91(a)(10)) may be taken.

EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See sub-section 27.20(b).

Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2009

Morro Bay South-Central Management Area

Ocean waters between 36°00' N. latitude (near Lopez Point in Monterey County) and 34°27' N. latitude (Point Conception)

Includes a portion of Monterey County, all of San Luis Obispo County, and a portion of Santa Barbara County

Note: Regulations in the table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review one of the sources listed in Footnote 2 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

Species	Time Period ^{2,3}	Depth Limit ^{2,3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1,2,4}
RCG Complex (including all species of Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenlings)	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: May 1-Nov 15 Closed: Jan 1-April 30, Nov 16-Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open year-round	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 240 ft (40 fm) deep SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary, Yelloweye, Cowcod and Bronzespotted Rockfishes	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabezon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Ocean Whitefish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	10 fish per person	none
California Sheephead	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	5 fish per person	12" total length

Species	Time Period ^{2,3}	Depth Limit ^{2,3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1,2,4}
California Scorpionfish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex above	5 fish per person	10" total length
Lingcod	Boat-based Anglers ³ : Open: May 1-Nov 15 Closed: Jan 1-April 30, Nov 16-Dec 31 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³:</u> Open: April 1-Nov 30 Closed: Jan 1-Mar 31, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length
Leopard Shark	Boat-based Anglers ³ : Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> Open all year	Same as RCG Complex, above	3 fish per person	36" total length
Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" ⁵ (see Section 28.48)	OPEN all year ⁵	None ⁵	See Section 28.48	See Section 28.48
Other Federal Groundfish (see Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.
2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.
3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex, ocean whitefish, California scorpionfish, California sheephead, and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). However, when spearfishing during a boat-based closure, only spearfishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:
 - Boat-based anglers are fishermen angling from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
 - Shore-based anglers are fishermen angling from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore.
 - Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.
4. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A finfish and shellfish measurement illustration is provided in this booklet.
5. In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in Section 1.91(a)(10)) may be taken.
EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See sub-section 27.20(b).

Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2009 Southern Management Area

Ocean waters between 34°27' N. latitude (Point Conception) and the U.S.-Mexico Border, excluding the Cowcod Conservation Areas²

Includes a portion of Santa Barbara County, and all of Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties

Note: Regulations in the table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review one of the sources listed in Footnote 3 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

Species	Time Period ^{2, 3, 6, 7}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3, 6, 7}	Daily Bag Limit ³	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 3, 5}
RCG Complex ² (including all species of Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenlings)	<u>Boat-based Anglers⁴:</u> Open: Mar 1-Dec 31 Closed: Jan 1-Feb 29 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers⁴:</u> Open year-round	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than 360 ft (60 fm) deep²</i> SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary, Yelloweye, Cowcod and Bronzespotted Rockfishes	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabezon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Ocean Whitefish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	10 fish per person	none
California Sheephead	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	5 fish per person	12" total length
California Scorpionfish	OPEN all year	Jan, Feb: May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than 240 ft. (40 fm) deep²</i> Mar-Dec: May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than 360 ft. (60 fm) deep²</i>	5 fish per person	10" total length
Lingcod	<u>All Anglers and Divers⁴:</u> Open: Apr 1-Nov 30 Closed: Jan1-Mar 31, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length

Species	Time Period ^{2, 3, 6, 7}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3, 6, 7}	Daily Bag Limit ³	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 3, 5}
Leopard Shark ⁶	<u>Boat-based Anglers⁴ within Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, San Diego Bay, and Mission Bay</u> : Open all year <u>Outside of the above-mentioned bays</u> : Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers⁴</u> : Open all year	<u>Boat-based Anglers⁴ within Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, San Diego Bay, and Mission Bay</u> : No depth restrictions <u>Outside of the above-mentioned bays</u> : Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers⁴</u> : Open all year	3 fish per person	36" total length
Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" ⁷ (see Section 28.48)	OPEN all year ⁷	None ⁷	See Section 28.48	See Section 28.48
Other Federal Groundfish (see Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.

2. In the Cowcod Conservation Areas fishing is prohibited in waters greater than 120 feet (20 fathoms) in depth. Fishing is also subject to the Time Period closures for the Southern Management Area. See Section 27.50 for further information on species restrictions.

3. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.

4. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex, ocean whitefish, California sheephead, and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). However, when spearfishing during a boat-based closure, only spearfishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:

- Boat-based anglers are fishermen angling from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
- Shore-based anglers are fishermen angling from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
- Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.

5. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A finfish and shellfish measurement illustration is provided in this booklet.

6. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay is exempt from season and depth restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish.

7. In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in Section 1.91(a) (10)) may be taken.

EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See sub-section 27.20(b).

Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2009 Cowcod Conservation Areas

Area 1 is located south of Pt. Conception. Area 2 is located west of San Diego. See Section 27.50 for exact location coordinates

In these areas, only the groundfish listed within this table may be caught or possessed (see Exception at end of table)

Note: Regulations in the table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review one of the sources listed in Footnote 3 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

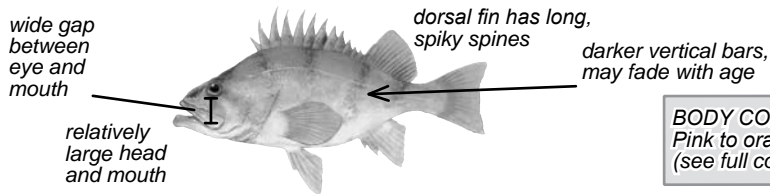
Species	Time Period ^{3,4}	Depth Limit ^{3,4}	Daily Bag Limit ^{3,4}	Min. Size Limit ^{2,3,4,5}
Nearshore rockfish ¹ ONLY , as defined in Section 1.91(a)(1)	Boat-based Anglers ⁴ : Open: Mar 1-Dec 31 Closed: Jan 1-Feb 29 <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers⁴:</u> Open year-round	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than 120 ft (20 fm) deep</i> ³ SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	none
Canary, Yelloweye, Cowcod, Bronzespotted, and Bocaccio Rockfishes	CLOSED all year	CLOSED at all depths	NO RETENTION (zero)	
Shelf and Slope Rockfishes as defined in sections 1.91(a)(3) and 1.91(a)(4)	CLOSED all year	CLOSED at all depths	NO RETENTION (zero)	
Cabezon	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Ocean Whitefish	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	10 fish per person	none
California Sheephead	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	5 fish per person	12" total length
California Scorpionfish	<u>All Anglers and Divers⁴:</u> OPEN all year	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	5 fish per person	10" total length
Lingcod	<u>All Anglers and Divers⁴:</u> Open: Apr 1-Nov 30 Closed: Jan 1-Mar 31, Dec	Same as Nearshore Rockfish, above	2 fish per person	24" total length

Species	Time Period ^{3, 4}	Depth Limit ^{3, 4}	Daily Bag Limit ^{3, 4}	Min. Size Limit ^{2, 3, 4, 5}
Leopard Shark	CLOSED all year	CLOSED at all depths	NO RETENTION (zero)	
Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" ⁶ (see Section 28.48)	OPEN all year ⁶	None ⁶	See Section 28.48	See Section 28.48
Other Federal Groundfish (see Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57)	CLOSED all year	CLOSED at all depths	NO RETENTION (zero)	

1. "Nearshore rockfish" as described in Section 1.91(a)(1) means black rockfish, black-and-yellow rockfish, blue rockfish, brown rockfish, calico rockfish, China rockfish, copper rockfish, gopher rockfish, grass rockfish, kelp rockfish, olive rockfish, quillback rockfish, and treefish.
2. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.
3. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.
4. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting nearshore rockfish, cabezon, greenlings, California scorpionfish, ocean whitefish, sanddabs and "other flatfish". However, when spearfishing during a boat-based closure, only spearfishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:
- Boat-based anglers are fishermen angling from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
 - Shore-based anglers are fishermen angling from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore.
 - Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.
5. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A finfish and shellfish measurement illustration is provided in this booklet.
6. In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in Section 1.91(a)(10)) may be taken.
- EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See sub-section 27.20(b).

**COWCOD
MAY NOT
BE RETAINED
IN CALIFORNIA
IN 2009**

original full-color fish illustration by Amadeo Bachar



BODY COLOR:
Pink to orange-red
(see full color insert)

Use these
features to
correctly
identify
cowcod

Information that has been added or changed since the printing of the 2008 Ocean Sport Fishing regulation booklet is shaded in gray.

CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS

All laws or regulations hereunder are either reproduced verbatim from the Fish and Game Code or from Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), as adopted by the Fish and Game Commission under authority of the Fish and Game Code.

1.04. Anadromous Waters. Anadromous waters are inland waters that are accessible to fish migrating from the ocean.

1.05. Angling. To take fish by hook and line with the line held in the hand, or with the line attached to a pole or rod held in the hand or closely attended in such manner that the fish voluntarily takes the bait or lure in its mouth.

1.14. Authorization for Taking Fish. Fish, amphibians, reptiles, mollusks and crustaceans may be taken only in the amounts, only during the open season and only with the gear authorized and shall not be taken otherwise.

1.17. Bag and Possession Limit. No more than one daily bag limit of each kind of fish, amphibian, reptile, mollusk or crustacean named in these regulations may be taken or possessed by any one person unless otherwise authorized; regardless of whether they are fresh, frozen, or otherwise preserved. Exceptions: See Sections 7.00, 7.50(a), 27.60(c), and 195, Title 14, CCR.

1.18. Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp. A person shall not sport fish in the tidal waters of San Francisco and San Pablo bays east of the Golden Gate Bridge and west of the Carquinez Bridge, (i.e., all tidal waters, sloughs, canals and forebays within the area east of Highway 101, west of Highway 29, west of Interstates 80 and 880, and north of Highway 237, including the Napa River below the Trancas Bridge in Napa, Sonoma Creek below the Highway 121 bridge and the Petaluma River east of Highway 101), the Carquinez Strait, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (i.e., all rivers, sloughs, canals, cuts, forebays, and flooded islands within the area south of Interstate 80, west of Highway 99, north of Interstates 580 and 205, and Highway 120, and east of Interstate 680), the Sacramento River below Keswick Dam, the Feather River below Oroville Dam, the Yuba River below Englebright Dam, the American River below Nimbus Dam, the Cosumnes River west of Highway 99, the Mokelumne River below Camanche Dam, the Calaveras River below New Hogan Dam, the San Joaquin River below Mendota Dam, the Stanislaus River below Goodwin Dam, the Tuolumne River below La Grange Dam, and the Merced River below Crocker-Huffman Dam, unless he or she first obtains, in addition to a valid California sport fishing license and any applicable stamp issued pursuant to Section 7149 or 7149.05, a Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp and affixes that stamp to his or her valid sport fishing license.

1.19. Barbless Hook. A fish hook from which the barb or barbs have been removed or completely bent closed, or which is manufactured without barbs.

1.23. Bow and Arrow Fishing Tackle. Such tackle must have the arrow shaft or the point, or both, attached by a line to the bow or to a fishing reel (includes crossbow).

1.32. Chumming. Placing any material in the water, other than on a hook while angling, for the purpose of attracting fish to a particular area in order that they may be taken.

1.35. Closed or Closure. Refers to waters or areas closed to all fishing unless otherwise authorized.

1.38. Closed Season. That period during which the taking of fish, amphibians, reptiles, mollusks or crustaceans is prohibited.

1.39. Coastal Pelagic Species Defined. Coastal pelagic species means any of the following: northern anchovy (*Engraulis mordax*), Pacific sardine (*Sardinops sagax*), Pacific mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*), jack mackerel (*Trachurus symmetricus*), and market squid (*Loligo opalescens*).

1.41. Dates. Dates of seasons and closures are inclusive.

1.42. Dip Net. Webbing supported by a frame, and hand held, not more than six feet in greatest dimension, excluding handle.

1.46. Finfish Defined. Finfish are defined as any species of bony fish or cartilaginous fish (sharks,

skates and rays). Finfish do not include amphibians, invertebrates, plants or algae.

1.49. Highly Migratory Species Defined. Highly migratory species means any of the following: albacore, bluefin, bigeye, and yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus* spp.); skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*); dorado (dolphinfish) (*Coryphaena hippurus*); striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*); thresher sharks (common, pelagic, and bigeye) (*Alopias* spp.); shortfin mako shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*); blue shark (*Prionace glauca*), and Pacific swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*).

1.53. Inland Waters. Inland waters are all the fresh, brackish and inland saline waters of the state, including lagoons and tidewaters upstream from the mouths of coastal rivers and streams. Inland waters exclude the waters of San Francisco and San Pablo bays downstream from the Carquinez Bridge, the tidal portions of rivers and streams flowing into San Francisco and San Pablo bays, and the waters of Elkhorn Slough, west of Elkhorn Road between Castroville and Watsonville. Also see Section 27.00.

1.59. Limit. Refers to daily bag limit and possession limit per person, or boat limit authorized in Sections 27.60(c) and 195, Title 14, CCR.

1.62. Minimum and Maximum Size. No fish, mollusks or crustaceans less than the legal minimum size or greater than the maximum legal size (total, fork or alternate) may be possessed, except as otherwise provided. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. Fork length is the straight-line distance from the tip of the head to the center of the tail fin. Tip of the head shall be the most anterior point on the fish with the mouth closed and the fish lying flat on its side. Alternate length is the straight-line distance from the base of the foremost spine of the first dorsal fin to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. Unless otherwise provided, all fish, mollusks or crustaceans less than the legal minimum size or greater than the maximum legal size must be returned immediately to the water from which they were taken. [Note: See Invertebrate section for definitions of minimum legal size for mollusks or crustaceans.]

1.63. Movement of Live Fish. Except as provided in Sections 4.00 through 4.30 and 230, live fin fish may not be transported alive from the water where taken.

1.65. Multiple Hook. A hook with two or more points.

1.68. Open Season. That period of time during which the taking of fish, amphibians, reptiles, mollusks and crustaceans is authorized.

1.70. Opening Date and Bag Limit for Boundary Waters. Waters, exclusive of their tributaries, on the boundary between areas or districts with different opening dates or limits shall open on the earlier date and have the larger limit unless otherwise specified.

1.72. Stream (Includes Creeks and Rivers). A stream is a body of water that flows at least periodically or intermittently through a bed or channel having banks and that supports fish or other aquatic life. This includes watercourses having a surface or subsurface flow that supports or has supported riparian vegetation.

1.73. Salmon. Includes chinook, coho, pink, chum and sockeye salmon.

1.74. Sport Fishing Report Card and Tagging Requirements.

(a) **Purpose.** These regulations address potential concern for overfishing and a lack of recreational fishing effort and catch information in some or all areas where the fishery operates. Many of these species are of high commercial value, and therefore, additional enforcement mechanisms are needed to improve compliance with existing bag limits and other regulations, and to reduce the potential for poaching.

(b) **Species and Location Requirements.** Individuals fishing for or taking the following species are subject to report card requirements in the following locations described below:

(1) **Salmon, in the Klamath-Trinity River System only.** The Klamath-Trinity River System is defined as the anadromous waters of the Klamath River and Trinity River basins. Anadromous waters are defined in Section 1.04.

(2) **Steelhead trout,** in all anadromous waters where take is authorized.

(3) **White sturgeon,** in all areas where take is authorized. Tagging of retained individual sturgeon is also required.

(4) **Red abalone,** in all areas where take is authorized. Tagging of retained individual abalone is also required.

(5) **California spiny lobster,** in all areas where take is authorized.

(c) General Report Card Requirements.

(1) Any person fishing for or taking any of the species identified in this Section shall have in their possession a non-transferable report card issued by the department for the particular species. See special exemption regarding possession of report cards for lobster divers in Section 29.91.

(2) Notwithstanding other statutes and regulations that may exempt sport fishing license requirements, non-transferable report cards are required for any person fishing for or taking the species identified above. All cardholders shall adhere to all reporting and tagging requirements defined in this Section and Sections 5.79, 5.87, 5.88, 27.92, 29.16, and 29.91 regardless of whether a sport fishing license requirement applies. This provision applies to all of the following persons:

- (A) Any person who is under 16 years of age
- (B) Any person who is fishing from a public pier
- (C) Any person who is fishing on free fishing days
- (D) Any person who holds a lifetime fishing license

(3) Persons described in sub-sections 1.74(c)(2) may purchase report cards without purchasing a license.

(4) All entries made on any report card or tag must be legible and in indelible ink.

(5) **Entries Required at the Time of Report Card Issuance.** At the time of issuance of the report card, the cardholder is responsible for entry of the following information, unless both the report card and the sport fishing license are issued through the Automated License Data System:

(A) The date the report card is issued, the individual's name, street address, city, state, zip code, home phone, and date of birth shall be entered in the appropriate spaces on the report card. If the cardholder has a driver's license, or DMV identification number, this information shall also be entered in the appropriate spaces. If the cardholder has an e-mail address, it may be entered in the space provided.

(B) **Acquisition of Sturgeon Fishing Report Cards and Abalone Report Cards** - If the cardholder is required to have a sport fishing license, the report card number shall be entered in the designated space provided on the back of the individual's sport fishing license, and the sport fishing license number shall be entered on the report card in the appropriate space.

(C) **Acquisition of Klamath-Trinity Salmon Report Cards, Steelhead Report and Restoration Cards and Spiny Lobster Report Cards** - If the cardholder is required to have a sport fishing license, both the name of the report card and the number shall be entered in the blank area on the back of the individual's sport fishing license, and the sport fishing license number shall be entered on the report card in the appropriate space.

(D) If the cardholder wishes to purchase another fishing license after their one, two, or ten-day sport fishing license has expired the cardholder need not purchase a second report card for any species, so long as the cardholder still possesses the report card valid for the calendar year. At the time of purchase of the subsequent license, the additional sport fishing license number shall be entered in the appropriate space on the report card. If there is a space provided for the particular card on the sport fishing license, the number shall be entered in the appropriate space at the time of purchase. If there is no space provided for the card, both the name of the report card and the number shall be entered on the back of the individual's sport fishing license.

(6) A report card shall be valid only during the open fishing season for the calendar year shown on the report card.

(7) Cardholders shall return their card by January 31 of the following year to the department at the address specified on the card.

(8) Any person who fails to return his or her report card to the department by the deadline may be restricted from obtaining the same card in a subsequent license year or may be subject to an additional fee for the issuance of the same card in a subsequent license year.

(9) For abalone and sturgeon report cards, only one report card may be issued per person per license year.

(10) Report cards may not be transferred to another person and no person may possess any report card other than their own.

(d) **Replacement Procedures for Lost Abalone or Sturgeon Report Cards.** For species for which an individual may purchase only one report card per year (i.e., abalone and sturgeon),

if the cardholder loses the card, a replacement card shall be acquired only by following the procedures:

(1) The individual shall provide all of the following to a department license office location:

(A) A photocopy of the original report card issued in the cardholder's name, unless the report card was issued through the Automated License Data System.

(B) An affidavit, signed under penalty of perjury, containing the following information:

1. A statement confirming that the originally issued report card cannot be recovered.

2. A statement of the cardholder's best recollection of the prior catch records that were entered on the report card that was lost, including the number of tags utilized.

3. A statement describing the factual circumstances surrounding the loss of the card.

(C) Proof of purchase of the original report card, in the form of an itemized receipt, credit card billing statement, invoice, or other written business record expressly documenting that a report card for the particular species was purchased and the corresponding fee was paid. The cardholder is exempt from this requirement if the report card was issued through the Automated License Data System.

(D) Payment of the Replacement Card Fee specified in Section 701(f), 701(g) or 701(h) Title 14, CCR, established pursuant to subdivision 1053(b) of the Fish and Game Code, and as adjusted pursuant to Sections 713 and 1055 of the Fish and Game Code.

(E) Payment of the Replacement Processing Fee specified in Section 701(i) or 701(j), Title 14, CCR, established pursuant to subdivision 1050(e) of the Fish and Game Code.

(2) Based on the information provided in the written affidavit, the department shall issue only the number of tags that were reported unused on the previously issued report card.

(3) At the time the replacement card is acquired, if the cardholder is required to have a sport fishing license, the number of the replacement card shall be entered in the appropriate space on the sport fishing license and the fishing license number shall be entered in the space provided on the report card.

(4) All regulations applicable to the initial card also apply to additional cards issued pursuant to this sub-section.

(e) Replacement Procedures for Salmon, Steelhead, or Lobster Report Cards.

(1) Any cardholder who fills in all available lines on his or her steelhead, salmon or lobster report card shall return the card to the department at the address specified on the card prior to purchasing a second card.

(2) Any cardholder who loses his or her steelhead, salmon or lobster report card may purchase a second card, but at or before the time of purchase shall provide a written affidavit to the department at the address on the report card documenting the lost catch and effort data required by the card to the best of the cardholder's recollection.

(3) At the time the additional card is acquired, if the cardholder is required to have a sport fishing license, both the name of the report card and the number shall be entered on the back of the individual's sport fishing license, and the fishing license number shall be entered in the space provided on the report card.

(4) All regulations applicable to the initial card also apply to additional cards issued pursuant to this sub-section.

(f) Specific Report Card and Tagging Requirements. Data recording and tagging procedures vary between report cards and species. See specific regulations in Sections 5.79, 5.87, 5.88, 27.92, 29.16, and 29.91 that apply in addition to the regulations of this Section.

1.76. Spearfishing. The taking of fish by spear or hand by persons who are in the water and may be using underwater goggles, face plates, breathing tubes, SCUBA or other artificial underwater breathing device.

1.80. Take. Hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill fish, amphibians, reptiles, mollusks, crustaceans or invertebrates or attempting to do so.

1.84. Titles and Section Numbers. All titles and headings used in these regulations are a part thereof. All section numbers cited refer to these regulations unless otherwise specified.

1.87. Waste of Fish. It is unlawful to cause or permit any deterioration or waste of any fish taken in the waters of this state.

1.88. Public Pier. A public pier is a publicly owned man-made structure that has the following

characteristics: is connected, above the mean high tide, to the main coastline or to the landmass of a named and charted natural island; has unrestricted free access for the general public; and has been built or currently functions for the primary purpose of allowing angling access to ocean waters.

Additionally, publicly owned jetties or breakwaters that are connected to land, as described above, that have free unrestricted access for the general public and whose purpose it is to form the most seaward protective boundary of an ocean harbor are public piers. Jetties, breakwaters, promenades, sea walls, moles, docks, linings, barriers and other structures that are not the most seaward protective boundary of an ocean harbor, are not public piers.

1.90. Nearshore Fish Stocks, Nearshore Fisheries, Nearshore Waters, and Shallow Nearshore Rockfish Defined.

(a) Under the authority of Section 8587.1 of the Fish and Game Code, Section 8586 of the Fish and Game Code is made inoperative.

(b) "Nearshore fish stocks" means any of the following:

- (1) black rockfish (*Sebastes melanops*),
- (2) black-and-yellow rockfish (*Sebastes chrysomelas*),
- (3) blue rockfish (*Sebastes mystinus*),
- (4) brown rockfish (*Sebastes auriculatus*),
- (5) cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*),
- (6) calico rockfish (*Sebastes dallii*),
- (7) California scorpionfish (sculpin) (*Scorpaena guttata*),
- (8) California sheephead (*Semicossyphus pulcher*),
- (9) China rockfish (*Sebastes nebulosus*),
- (10) copper rockfish (*Sebastes caurinus*),
- (11) gopher rockfish (*Sebastes carnatus*),
- (12) grass rockfish (*Sebastes rastrelliger*),
- (13) greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*,
- (14) kelp rockfish (*Sebastes atrovirens*),
- (15) monkeyface eel (*Cebidichthys violaceus*),
- (16) olive rockfish (*Sebastes serranoides*),
- (17) quillback rockfish (*Sebastes maliger*), and
- (18) treefish (*Sebastes serripes*).

(c) "Nearshore fisheries" means the commercial or recreational taking, possession, or landing of any species of nearshore fish stocks.

(d) "Nearshore waters" means ocean waters including around offshore rocks and islands extending from the shore to a depth of 20 fathoms.

(e) "Shallow nearshore rockfish" means a sub-group of rockfishes (genus *Sebastes*) including only black-and-yellow rockfish, China rockfish, gopher rockfish, grass rockfish, and kelp rockfish.

1.91. Federal Groundfish and Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenling (RCG) Complex.

(a) The species or species groups listed in sub-sections 1.91(a)(1) through 1.91(a)(12) constitute "federal groundfish" and are managed under the federal Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan:

(1) "Nearshore Rockfish" which means the following species of rockfish: black rockfish (*Sebastes melanops*), black-and-yellow rockfish (*S. chrysomelas*), blue rockfish (*S. mystinus*), brown rockfish (*S. auriculatus*), calico rockfish (*S. dalli*), China rockfish (*S. nebulosus*), copper rockfish (*S. caurinus*), gopher rockfish (*S. carnatus*), grass rockfish (*S. rastrelliger*), kelp rockfish (*S. atrovirens*), olive rockfish (*S. serranoides*), quillback rockfish (*S. maliger*), treefish (*S. serripes*)

(2) "California scorpionfish" (*Scorpaena guttata*)

(3) "Shelf Rockfish" which means the following species of rockfish: bocaccio (*Sebastes paucispinis*), bronzespotted rockfish (*S. gilli*), canary rockfish (*S. pinniger*), chilipepper (*S. goodei*), cowcod (*S. levis*), dusky rockfish (*S. ciliatus*), flag rockfish (*S. rubrivinctus*), greenblotched rockfish (*S. rosenblatti*), greenspotted rockfish (*S. chlorostictus*), greenstriped rockfish (*S. elongatus*), harlequin rockfish (*S. variegatus*), honeycomb rockfish (*S. umbrosus*), Mexican rockfish (*S. macdonaldi*), pink rockfish (*S. eos*), redstripe rockfish (*S. proriger*), rosethorn rockfish (*S. helvomaculatus*), rosy rockfish (*S. rosaceus*), shortbelly rockfish (*S. jordani*), silvergray rockfish (*S. brevispinis*), speckled



Before engaging in ocean sport fishing for groundfish and associated species please access one of the sources listed on page 6 for up-to-date information concerning season dates, allowed fishing depths, and other regulations.



rockfish (*S. ovalis*), squarespot rockfish (*S. hopkinsi*), starry rockfish (*S. constellatus*), stripetail rockfish (*S. saxicola*), tiger rockfish (*S. nigrocinctus*), vermilion rockfish (*S. miniatus*), widow rockfish (*S. entomelas*), yelloweye rockfish (*S. ruberrimus*), yellowtail rockfish (*S. flavidus*)

(4) "Slope Rockfish" which means the following species of rockfish: aurora rockfish (*Sebastes aurora*), bank rockfish (*S. rufus*), blackgill rockfish (*S. melanostomus*), darkblotched rockfish (*S. crameri*), Pacific ocean perch (*S. alutus*), redbanded rockfish (*S. babcocki*), roughey rockfish (*S. aleutianus*), sharpchin rockfish (*S. zacentrus*), shortraker rockfish (*S. borealis*), splitnose rockfish (*S. diploproa*), yellowmouth rockfish (*S. reedi*)

(5) "Sharks" including only leopard shark (*Triakis semifasciata*), soupfin shark (*Galeorhinus zyopterus*), and spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*)

(6) "Skates" including only big skate (*Raja binoculata*), California skate (*R. inornata*), and longnose skate (*R. rhina*)

(7) "Roundfish" including only cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*), kelp greenling (*Hexagrammos decagrammus*), lingcod (*Ophiodon elongatus*), Pacific cod (*Gadus macrocephalus*), Pacific whiting (*Merluccius productus*), and sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*)

(8) "Thornyheads" which means longspine thornyhead (*Sebastolobus altivelis*) and shortspine thornyhead (*Sebastolobus alascanus*)

(9) "Federally Managed Flatfish", including only arrowtooth flounder (arrowtooth turbot) (*Atheresthes stomias*), Dover sole (*Microstomus pacificus*), English sole (*Parophrys vetulus*), petrale sole (*Eopsetta jordani*), and starry flounder (*Platichthys stellatus*)

(10) "Other Flatfish", including only butter sole (*Isopsetta isolepis*), curlfin sole (*Pleuronichthys decurrens*), flathead sole (*Hippoglossoides elassodon*), Pacific sanddab (*Citharichthys sordidus*), rex sole (*Glyptocephalus zachirus*), rock sole (*Lepidopsetta bilineata*), and sand sole (*Psettichthys melanostictus*)

(11) "Other Fish" including only ratfish (*Hydrolagus collieri*), finescale codling (*Antimora microlepis*), and Pacific rattail (*Coryphaenoides acrolepis*)

(12) All genera and species of the family Scorpaenidae that occur off California and not specifically listed in (a)(1) through (a)(4) or (a)(8) above are included in the list of species.

(b) "RCG Complex" means all species of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*), cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*), and kelp and rock greenlings (genus *Hexagrammos*)

195. Report of Fish Taken to be Made by Owner of Barge or Vessel for Hire and Boat Limits.

(a) Records required by Sections 7923 and 8026 of the Fish and Game Code shall be made on a form provided by the department (Skipper's Log Book - Marine Sportfishing - Southern California F&G 656 and Skipper's Log Book - Marine Sportfishing Central and Northern California F&G 623, DFG 195, which is incorporated by reference, and hereafter referred to as logbook for purposes of this section). The logbook shall include the following information and be completed and available for inspection as specified in this section:

(1) A full and correct record of fish taken, including species or specified species groups, filled out before the trip is completed (see Section 190(b) of Title 14, CCR). The names used for designating the species of fish shall be those in common usage unless otherwise designated by the department.

(2) The owner/operator copy of the logbook shall be maintained and kept on the vessel for a period of one year, and upon request, shall be made available for inspection by any authorized representative of the Department.

(3) The numbered logbook shall be completed sequentially. A voided log shall have the word "Void" plainly and noticeably written on the face of the log.

(b) The owner(s) and/or operator(s) of each vessel required to obtain a license under Section 7920 of the Fish and Game Code shall post a notice in a prominent place on the vessel giving information to fishermen on license requirements, bag limits, and other pertinent information. This notice shall be furnished by the department.

(c) Both the vessel owner(s) and/or operator(s) shall be responsible for keeping accurate records and insuring the vessel is in compliance with sub-sections (a) and (b) above.

(d) All fishing activity records are confidential pursuant to Fish and Game Code Sections 7923 and 8022 and Government Code Sections 6276 and 6276.10.

(e) **Boat Limits:** When two or more persons licensed or otherwise authorized to sport fish in ocean waters off California or in the San Francisco Bay District, as defined in Section 27.00, are angling for finfish in these waters aboard a vessel licensed under Section 7920, fishing by these persons (to include vessel operator(s) and crew members where licensed to sportfish under their own individual limits) may continue until the passenger's boat limits of those finfish are taken and possessed aboard the vessel as authorized under this section.

(1) For purposes of this section, the vessel operator(s) and crew members are not passengers and may not take fish towards obtaining boat limits for passengers except for casting, setting trolling gear, gaffing or netting fish, but may take fish during a fishing trip for their personal use only. Vessel operator(s) and crew members may assist passengers in other activities including, but not limited to, obtaining bait, chumming, baiting and untangling hooks and lines, identifying, dispatching, filleting, counting, bagging and otherwise handling fish taken by passengers. Upon completion of a fishing trip, the vessel operator(s) and crew members may only possess fish that are part of their own personal bag limit not to exceed authorized sportfishing daily bag and possession limits.

(2) Fish taken by operator(s) and crew members for personal use pursuant to (e)(1) above must be separated from fish taken under a boat limit and labeled in a manner that they can be identified as an individual operator's or crew members fish. Operator(s) and crew members are also prohibited from giving all or part of their individual limit to any passenger during or after a trip.

(3) The authorization for boat limits aboard a vessel does not apply to fishing trips originating in California where fish are taken in other jurisdictions.

(4) A boat limit for a species or species group is equal to the number of passengers aboard the vessel that are licensed or otherwise authorized to sport fish in ocean waters off California or in the San Francisco Bay District multiplied by the individual daily bag limit authorized for a species or species group. For purposes of this section, the number of passengers shall not include the vessel operator(s) and crew members. It is unlawful to exceed the boat limit at any time.

(5) Prior to the departure on a fishing trip of a vessel that is operating under authority of a license issued pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 7920, the number of fishers, to include passengers, guests, operators and crew who will be fishing, shall be recorded under "number of fishers" on the logbook for that trip. In addition, the number of vessel operator(s) and crew members who will fish for that trip shall be recorded in the space to the right of the operator's signature on the logbook.

(6) Upon completion of a sport fishing trip aboard a vessel reporting under this section, each licensed or otherwise authorized angler may not possess more than the daily bag and possession limits. For the purposes of this section, a fishing trip is completed at the time a person disembarks from the vessel and individual possession limits apply.

(7) Species for which no daily bag limit exists are not included in the boat limit.

(f) Where boat limits are provided for in this section, the vessel operator(s) and crew members may be cited for violations occurring aboard the vessel, including but not limited to violations of the following:

- (A) Overlimits
- (B) Possession of prohibited species
- (C) Minimum size limits
- (D) Fish taken out of season or in closed areas

(g) Boat limits are not authorized for sturgeon fishing and shall not apply to the take, possession or retention of sturgeon.



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CHAPTER 4. OCEAN FISHING

27.00. Definition. The Ocean and San Francisco Bay District consists of the open seas adjacent to the coast and islands or in the waters of those open or enclosed bays contiguous to the ocean, and including San Francisco and San Pablo bays plus all their tidal bays, tidal portions of their rivers and streams, sloughs and estuaries between the Golden Gate Bridge and Carquinez Bridge, and the waters of Elkhorn Slough, west of Elkhorn Road between Castroville and Watsonville. Also see Section 1.53.

27.05. Chumming. Chumming, including chumming with live bait, is permitted.

27.10. Live Bait Restrictions. Tilapia may not be used or possessed for use as bait in ocean waters.

27.15. Multi-Day Fishing Trips. The following provisions apply to anglers and to boat owners and operators when a Declaration for a Multi-Day Fishing Trip has been filed with the department.

(a) Provisions related to the angler: Up to three daily bag and possession limits of saltwater fin fish, lobster and rock scallops and up to two daily bag and possession limits of abalone are allowed for a person fishing during a multi-day trip in ocean waters from a boat whose owner or operator has filed a Declaration for Multi-Day Fishing Trip, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) below.

(1) The provisions of this section do not authorize any person to take more than one daily bag limit of fish during one calendar day.

(2) The provisions of this section do not apply to the taking and possession of salmon, steelhead, striped bass and sturgeon.

(b) Provisions related to the boat owner or operator who has filed for a Declaration for a Multi-Day Fishing Trip:

(1) The owner or operator of a boat shall submit to the nearest department office a Declaration for Multi-Day Fishing Trip and payment as specified in Section 701. The Declaration for Multi-Day Fishing Trip shall include the following information:

(A) Place, date and time of departure of the boat.

(B) Place, date and estimated time of return of the boat.

(C) Name of the boat.

(D) Date and hour Declaration mailed or delivered to the department.

(E) Additional requirements for Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessels:

1. The Commercial Boat Registration Number issued pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 7880.

2. Copy of passenger manifest if fishing within 10 miles of the mainland shore of California.

(2) The Declaration for Multi-Day Fishing Trip must be submitted to the nearest department office in order for any person aboard such boat to possess more than one bag limit of saltwater fin fish, abalone, lobster and rock scallops. If mailed, the Declaration for Multi-Day Fishing Trip must be received at least 48 hours prior to the date of the boat's departure. If the 48-hours advance notice is not met, the original copy of the form signed by an authorized department representative must be aboard the vessel during the trip. Forms will be accepted for authorization only during business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

(3) A Declaration for Multi-Day Fishing Trip may not be filed for a trip unless the trip is continuous and extends for a period of 12 hours or more on the first and last days of the trip and no berthing or docking is permitted within five miles of the mainland shore.

(4) The owner or operator of a boat filing a Declaration for Multi-Day Fishing Trip shall prepare such form in duplicate, and shall require the duplicate to be posted in full view of the passengers aboard the boat.

(5) All passengers must disembark at place of return as stated on the Declaration for Multi-Day Fishing Trip.

Fin Fish — General

27.56. Take General. Except as otherwise provided, there are no closed seasons, closed hours or minimum size limits on fin fish in the Pacific Ocean including all saltwater bays except that in San Francisco Bay between the Golden Gate Bridge and the Carquinez Bridge and in saltwater tributaries to the bay within the area bounded by Interstate 80 and Highways 17, 101 and 37 finfish may not be taken between one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise except from shore or piers.

Fin Fish — Minimum Size Limits, Bag and Possession Limits, and Seasons

Groundfish regulations are based on the latest fishery information and may change during the year. See pg. 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

27.20. Groundfish Management Areas, Seasons, Depths, Exceptions, and Fishery Closure/Rule Change Process Described. Regulations that follow in sections 27.25 through 27.50 define fishing seasons and depth constraints that are effective within each Groundfish Management Area. These sections apply to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish as defined in Section 1.91. (These species include but are not limited to rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish). Special closures and exceptions to these regulations are also specified. All regulations of sections 27.25 through 27.50 also apply for California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, which are state-managed species known to associate with federal groundfish.

(a) Depth Constraints: A depth constraint means that during the open season, the aforementioned species may only be taken or possessed in water depths shallower than the specified depth. Two specific definitions of “depth” apply off California. In waters shallower than 30 fathoms, “depth” is defined by general depth contour lines. In waters equal to or deeper than 30 fathoms, “depth” is defined by approximating a particular depth contour by connecting the appropriate set of waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(b) Open Season – Take, Possession and Transit: During any open season in any Groundfish Management Area, in waters deeper than where fishing is authorized or within special closure areas established within a Groundfish Management Area, it is unlawful to take or possess the aforementioned species unless a special exception is provided. However, this regulation does not apply in cases where these species are possessed aboard a vessel in transit with no fishing gear deployed in the water.

(c) Closed Season: During any closed season in any Groundfish Management Area, it is unlawful to take or possess the aforementioned species regardless of depth, unless a special exception is provided.

(d) California Rockfish Conservation Area: Within any Groundfish Management Area, waters that are closed for these species during specified times and/or closed in specified depths shall be known as the California Rockfish Conservation Area. See Section 27.51.

(e) Fishery closure and/or rule change: When the department determines, based on the best available scientific information, that an annual harvest limit [optimum yield (OY), recreational harvest guideline, or recreational harvest target] established in regulation by the NOAA Fisheries (National Marine Fisheries Service) for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species has been exceeded or is projected to be exceeded prior to the end of the year or that catches are less than predicted, the following rule changes may occur:

(1) The department may modify the seasons and/or depth constraints for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus

Hexagrammos. Season and/or depth modifications may differ by Groundfish Management Area, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(2) The department may adjust existing bag or sub-bag limits or establish additional bag or sub-bag limits as needed for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Bag limits may differ by Groundfish Management Area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(3) The department may adjust existing size limits or establish additional size limits as needed for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Size limits may differ by Groundfish Management Area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(f) Notice of closure and/or rule change: The department shall give the public and the NOAA Fisheries no less than 10 calendar days' notice of any fishery closure or rule change implemented pursuant to this Section via a department news release. Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

27.25. Northern Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the Northern Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Northern Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 42°00' N. lat. (the Oregon/California border) and 40°10' N. lat. (near Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County).

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) **January 1 through May 14:** Closed.

(2) **May 15 through September 15:** Open for all species only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

(3) **September 16 through December 31:** Closed

(c) **Special exceptions to sub-section (b) above:**

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Humboldt Bay all year.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

Groundfish regulations are based on the latest fishery information and may change during the year. See pg. 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

27.30. North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 40°10' N. lat. (near Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County) and 38°57.50' N. lat. (at Point Arena, Mendocino County).

(b) Seasons, depth constraints, and special closure areas (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) **January 1 through May 14:** Closed.

(2) **May 15 through August 15:** Open for all species only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

(3) **August 16 through December 31:** Closed.

(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year.

(2) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(3) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

27.32. North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 38°57.50' N. lat. (at Point Arena, Mendocino County) and 37°11' N. lat. (at Pigeon Point, San Mateo County).

(b) Seasons, depth constraints, and special closure areas (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) **January 1 through June 12:** Closed.

(2) **June 13 through October 31:** Open for all species only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 30-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 30-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50

CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(3) **November 1 through December 31:** Closed.

(4) **Farallons Closure Area:** Waters shallower than 10 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines around the Farallon Islands (off San Francisco and San Mateo counties), including Southeast Farallon Island, Middle Farallon Island, North Farallon Island and Noon Day Rock are closed to fishing for these species at all times. Special exceptions provided for "other flatfish" in subsection (c)(1), shore-based angling in subsection (c)(3) and spearfishing/diving in subsection (c)(4) below do not apply in this closure area.

(5) **Cordell Bank Closure Area:** Waters of the Cordell Bank (off Marin County) shallower than 100 fathoms in depth as approximated by the 100-fathom depth contour that is defined by connecting the set of 100-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G), are closed to fishing for these species at all times. Special exceptions provided for "other flatfish" in sub-section (c)(1) below apply in this closure area. Special exceptions provided for shore-based angling in subsection (c)(3) and spearfishing/diving in subsection (c)(4) below do not apply in this closure area.

(c) **Special exceptions to sub-section (b) above:**

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Drake's Estero Bay, Bolinas Bay, Tomales Bay, Bodega Harbor, and San Francisco Bay all year.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

27.35. Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 37°11' N. lat. (at Pigeon Point, San Mateo County) and 36°00' N. lat. (near Lopez Point, Monterey County).

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) **January 1 through April 30:** Closed.

(2) **May 1 through November 15:** Open for all species only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 40-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 40-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(3) **November 16 through December 31:** Closed.

Groundfish regulations are based on the latest fishery information and may change during the year. See pg. 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

(c) Special exceptions to sub-section (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Elkhorn Slough all year.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

27.40. Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 36°00' N. lat. (near Lopez Point, Monterey County) and 34°27' N. lat. (at Point Conception, Santa Barbara County).

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) **January 1 through April 30:** Closed.

(2) **May 1 through November 15:** Open for all species only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 40-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 40-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(3) **November 16 through December 31:** Closed

(c) Special exceptions to sub-section (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year.

(2) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(3) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

27.45. Southern Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the Southern Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Southern Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 34° 27' N. lat. (at Point Conception, Santa Barbara County) and the U.S./Mexico border, except for waters of the Cowcod Conservation Areas, which are specified in Section 27.50. The Cowcod Conservation Areas are not part of the Southern Groundfish Management Area.

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) **January 1 through the last day in February:** Closed, except California scorpionfish may be taken or possessed only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 40-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 40-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(2) **March 1 through March 31:** Open for all species, except for lingcod, only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 60-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 60-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G). Lingcod may not be taken or possessed.

(3) **April 1 through November 30:** Open for all species only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 60-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 60-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(4) **December 1 through December 31:** Open for all species, except for lingcod, only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 60-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 60-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G). Lingcod may not be taken or possessed.

(c) **Special exceptions to sub-section (b) above:**

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay all year.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

27.50. Cowcod Conservation Areas.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the Cowcod Conservation Areas. The Cowcod Conservation

Groundfish regulations are based on the latest fishery information and may change during the year. See pg. 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

Areas are special Groundfish Management Areas where sport fishing regulations for these species are designed to minimize interaction with cowcod. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Cowcod Conservation Areas are defined as ocean waters off southern California within each of the following two areas. Area 1 is an area south of Point Conception that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

33° 50' N. lat., 119° 30' W. long.;
 33° 50' N. lat., 118° 50' W. long.;
 32° 20' N. lat., 118° 50' W. long.;
 32° 20' N. lat., 119° 37' W. long.;
 33° 00' N. lat., 119° 37' W. long.;
 33° 00' N. lat., 119° 53' W. long.;
 33° 33' N. lat., 119° 53' W. long.;
 33° 33' N. lat., 119° 30' W. long.;
 33° 50' N. lat., 119° 30' W. long.;

Before engaging in ocean sport fishing for groundfish and associated species, please access one of the sources listed on page 6 for up-to-date information concerning season dates, allowed fishing depths, and other regulations.

and Area 2 is a smaller area west of San Diego that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

32° 42' N. lat., 118° 02' W. long.;
 32° 42' N. lat., 117° 50' W. long.;
 32° 36'42" N. lat., 117° 50' W. long.;
 32° 30' N. lat., 117° 53'30" W. long.;
 32° 30' N. lat., 118° 02' W. long.;
 32° 42' N. lat., 118° 02' W. long.

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) **January 1 through the last day in February:** Closed, except California scorpionfish may be taken or possessed only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth, as described by general depth contour lines.

(2) **March 1 through March 31:** Open for only the species or species groups listed in (A) through (F) below, and only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

- (A) Nearshore rockfish, as defined in sub-section 1.91(a)(1)
- (B) Cabezon
- (C) California scorpionfish
- (D) Greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*
- (E) California sheephead
- (F) Ocean whitefish

(3) **April 1 through November 30:** Open for only the species or species groups listed in (A) through (G) below, and only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

- (A) Nearshore rockfish, as defined in sub-section 1.91(a)(1)
- (B) Cabezon
- (C) California scorpionfish
- (D) Greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*
- (E) California sheephead
- (F) Ocean whitefish
- (G) Lingcod

(4) **December 1 through December 31:** Open for only the species or species groups listed in (A) through (F) below, and only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

- (A) Nearshore rockfish, as defined in sub-section 1.91(a)(1)

- (B) Cabezon
- (C) California scorpionfish
- (D) Greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*
- (E) California sheephead
- (F) Ocean whitefish

(c) Special exceptions to sub-section (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year.

(2) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), only the species identified in (b)(3) above may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(3) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, only the species identified in (b)(3) above may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

27.51. California Rockfish Conservation Area.

California Rockfish Conservation Area (CRCA) means the ocean waters that are closed to recreational groundfish fishing at specified times, or closed in specified depths or areas. CRCAs serve to minimize interaction with particular species of overfished groundfish that cannot be selectively avoided and thus must be protected from overharvest by closing times, depths or areas to recreational fishing for all federally-managed groundfish and associated species (limited to California sheephead, greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, and ocean whitefish) managed by California. See Section 27.20.

(a) In the CRCA, take and possession is prohibited for all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish as defined in Section 1.91. These species include but are not limited to rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. Take and possession of California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, which are state-managed species known to associate with federal groundfish, is also prohibited.

(b) This regulation does not apply in cases where these species are possessed aboard a vessel in transit with no fishing gear deployed in the water.

Groundfish regulations are based on the latest fishery information and may change during the year. See pg. 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

27.60. Limit.

(a) General. No more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person except as otherwise provided or as defined in sub-section (c) below or in Section 195. See sections 27.70 through 28.62 for special bag limits, minimum size limits and poundage restrictions for certain species that apply in addition to the general bag limit.

(b) There is no limit on the following species: anchovy, grunion, jacksmelt, topsmelt, Pacific butterfish (pompano), queenfish, sanddabs, skipjack, jack mackerel, Pacific mackerel, Pacific staghorn sculpin, round herring, Pacific herring, Pacific sardine, petrale sole and starry flounder.

(c) Boat limit. When two or more persons that are licensed or otherwise authorized to sport fish in ocean waters off California or in the San Francisco Bay District, defined in Section 27.00, are angling for finfish aboard a vessel in these waters, fishing by all authorized persons aboard may

continue until boat limits of finfish are taken and possessed aboard the vessel as authorized under this section or Section 195, Title 14, CCR.

(1) The authorization for boat limits aboard a vessel does not apply to fishing trips originating in California where fish are taken in other jurisdictions.

(2) A boat limit for a species or species group is the number of persons aboard a vessel that are licensed or otherwise authorized to sport fish in ocean waters off California, or in waters of the San Francisco Bay District, (see special conditions of Section 195, Title 14, CCR, applicable to operator and crew members of vessels licensed pursuant to Fish and Game Code 7920) multiplied by the individual daily bag limit authorized for a species or species group in those waters. With the exception of species listed in sub-section (b) above, the total fish aboard a boat may not exceed the aggregate per-person daily bag limit of 20 finfish in combination of all species times the number of anglers licensed or otherwise authorized to sport fish aboard the vessel. It is unlawful to exceed the boat limit at any time.

(3) All persons aboard a vessel may be cited where violations involving boat limits are found, including, but not limited to the following violations:

- (A) Over limits
- (B) Possession of prohibited species
- (C) Violation of size limits
- (D) Fish taken out of season or in closed areas.

(4) Upon completion of a fishing trip aboard a vessel, each licensed angler or person otherwise authorized to sport fish may not possess more than the individual daily bag and possession limits. For purposes of this section, a trip is completed at the time a person disembarks from a vessel and individual possession limits apply. Special boat limit provisions apply to persons fishing aboard commercial passenger fishing vessels reporting pursuant to Section 195, Title 14, CCR.

(5) Species for which no daily bag limit exists are not counted as part of a boat limit.

(6) Boat limits are not authorized for sturgeon fishing and shall not apply to the take, possession or retention of sturgeon.

27.65. Filleting of Fish on Vessels.

(a) **Definition of Fillet:** For the purpose of this section a fillet is the flesh from one side of a fish extending from the head to the tail which has been removed from the body (head, tail and backbone) in a single continuous piece.

(b) **Fish That May be Filleted:** No person shall fillet on any boat or bring ashore as fillets any fish, except in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) **Kelp bass, sand bass, spotted bass, and ocean whitefish:** All fillets shall be a minimum of six and one-half inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.

(2) **Barracuda:** Fillets must be a minimum of 17 inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of silver skin.

(3) **Lingcod.** Lingcod fillets must be a minimum of 16 inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for lingcod may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change to the minimum size and minimum fillet size for lingcod made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(4) **White seabass:** Fillets must be a minimum of 19 inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of silver skin.

(5) **Pacific bonito:** No more than 10 fillets of any length may be possessed. All bonito fillets possessed shall be considered a part of the allowable undersized tolerance of five bonito per day less than 24 inches fork length or weighing less than five pounds as provided in Section 28.32 of these regulations. All fillets shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.

(6) **California halibut** taken from or possessed aboard a vessel south of Point Arena

(Mendocino County): Fillets must be a minimum of 16 and three-quarter inches in length and shall bear the entire skin intact. A fillet from a California halibut (flesh from one entire side of the fish with the entire skin intact) may not be cut in half fillets. However, a fillet may be cut lengthwise in a straight line along the midline of the fillet where the fillet was attached to the vertebra (back-bone) of the fish only if the two pieces of a fillet remain joined along their midline for a length of at least two inches at one end of the fillet.

(7) **Yellowtail:** Fillets must be a minimum of 17 inches in length, except not more than 10 fillets may be less than 17 inches. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.

(8) **Rockfish:** Fillets must have the entire skin attached. Bocaccio fillets must be a minimum of five inches in length. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for rockfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change to the minimum size and minimum fillet size for rockfish made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(9) **California scorpionfish** (commonly termed "sculpin"): Fillets must be a minimum of 5 inches. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for California scorpionfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change to the minimum size and minimum fillet size for California scorpionfish made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(10) All other species except those listed in sub-section (c) of this section: Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin. The fillets may be of any size.

(c) **Fish That May Not be Filleted:** No person shall fillet on any boat or bring ashore as fillets the following fish: cabezon, greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, salmon, striped bass, sturgeon, and any species of flatfish, except California halibut may be filleted or brought ashore as fillets south of Point Arena (Mendocino County).

27.70. Trout in the Ocean.

(a) **Methods of take:** The trout must voluntarily take the bait or lure in its mouth.

(b) **Limit:** Three, except the take of steelhead rainbow trout in the ocean is prohibited.

27.75. Salmon Closures.

(a) No salmon may be taken in ocean waters at the mouth of the Smith and Klamath rivers within three nautical miles north and south of a line drawn due west for three nautical miles from the center of the mouth of each of said rivers.

(b) No salmon may be taken during the months of August and September in ocean waters at the mouth of the Eel River within two nautical miles north and south of a line drawn due west for two nautical miles from the center of the mouth of said river.

(c) No salmon may be taken during the month of August in ocean waters at the mouth of the Klamath River within six nautical miles north and south of a line drawn due west for three nautical miles from the center of the mouth of said river.

27.80. Salmon.

(a) **Methods of take:**

(1) General Provisions. Only by angling as defined in Section 1.05. No sinkers or weights exceeding four pounds may be used, except that a fishing line may be attached to a sinker or weight of any size if such sinker or weight is suspended by a separate line and the fishing line is released automatically by a mechanical device from the sinker or weight when any fish is hooked. See sections 28.65 and 28.70.

(2) Barbless Hooks. No more than two (2) single point, single shank barbless hooks shall be used in the ocean north of Point Conception (34°27'00" N. lat.) when salmon fishing or fishing from any boat or floating device with salmon on board.

(3) Other Hook Restrictions. When fishing with bait in the ocean between Horse Mountain (40°05'00" N. lat.) and Point Conception, if angling by any means other than trolling, then no

more than two (2) single point, single shank, barbless circle hooks shall be used. The distance between the two hooks must not exceed five inches when measured from the top of the eye of the top hook to the inner base of the curve of the lower hook, and both hooks must be permanently tied in place (hard tied). A circle hook is defined as a hook with a generally circular shape, and a point which turns inwards, pointing directly to the shank at a 90-degree angle. Trolling is defined as angling from a boat or floating device that is making way by means of a source of power, other than drifting by means of the prevailing water current or weather conditions. See Section 28.65(g).

(4) One Rod Restriction north of Point Conception. Salmon may be taken by angling with no more than one rod in ocean waters north of Point Conception. See Section 28.65(e).

(b) **Season:**

(1) North of Horse Mountain (40°05'00" N. lat.) and Humboldt Bay. All waters of the ocean north of Horse Mountain and in Humboldt Bay are closed to salmon fishing for 2008. (Note: In 2009, the season will be decided in April by the Pacific Fishery Management Council and California Fish and Game Commission and the section will be amended pursuant to the regulatory process.)

(2) Between Horse Mountain and Point Arena (38°57'30" N. lat.). All waters of the ocean between Horse Mountain and Point Arena are open to salmon fishing from February 16 through April 4, 2008. (Note: In 2009, the season will be decided in April by the Pacific Fishery Management Council and California Fish and Game Commission and the section will be amended pursuant to the regulatory process.)

(3) South of Point Arena. All waters of the ocean south of Point Arena are closed to salmon fishing for 2008. (Note: In 2009, the season will be decided in April by the Pacific Fishery Management Council and California Fish and Game Commission and the section will be amended pursuant to the regulatory process.)

(c) **Limit:**

(1) Two salmon per day. See sub-section (c)(2) below and Section 1.17.

(2) Statewide Silver (coho) Salmon Restrictions: No silver (coho) salmon may be retained.

(d) **Minimum size:**

(1) North of Horse Mountain: Twenty-four inches total length.

(2) South of Horse Mountain: Twenty inches total length.

27.85. Striped Bass.

(a) **Open season:** All year.

(b) **Limit:** Two.

(c) **Minimum size:**

(1) North of Pt. Conception, 18 inches total length.

(2) South of Pt. Conception, no minimum size limit.

(d) **Methods of take:** No striped bass may be taken while using a sinker weighing over four pounds, or while using any power-driven gurdy or winch. Striped bass may only be taken by angling as defined by Section 1.05, Title 14, CCR; snagging is an illegal method of take.

27.90. White Sturgeon.

(a) **Open season:** All year.

(b) **Daily and annual bag limit:** One fish per day. Three fish per year statewide.

(c) **Size limit:** No fish less than 46 inches total length or greater than 66 inches total length may be taken or possessed.

(d) **Methods of take:** The sturgeon must voluntarily take the bait or lure in its mouth. No sturgeon may be taken by trolling, snagging or by the use of firearms. Sturgeon may not be gaffed, nor shall any person use any type of firearm to assist in landing or killing any sturgeon.

(e) **Report card required:** Any person fishing for or taking sturgeon shall have in their possession a non-transferable Sturgeon Fishing Report Card issued by the department and shall adhere to all reporting and tagging requirements for sturgeon defined in Sections 1.74 and 27.92, Title 14, CCR.

(f) For regulations on take and possession of sturgeon in inland waters as defined in Section 1.53, see Section 5.80 and Section 5.81.

(g) Boat limits, as defined in sub-section 27.60(e) and Section 195, are not authorized for

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sturgeon fishing and shall not apply to the take, possession or retention of white sturgeon.

27.91. Green Sturgeon.

(a) Green sturgeon may not be taken or possessed.

(b) Green sturgeon taken and released incidentally to white sturgeon fishing shall be reported on a Sturgeon Fishing Report Card issued by the department, in accordance with procedures defined in Sections 1.74 and 27.92, Title 14, CCR.

27.92. White Sturgeon Report Card and Tagging Requirements for Ocean Waters.

(a) Sturgeon Fishing Report Card Required. All anglers must have a Sturgeon Fishing Report Card in their possession while fishing for or taking sturgeon. Anglers must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74.

(b) Tagging and Recording Requirements for Retained Fish. A Sturgeon Fishing Report Card includes detachable tags that shall be used to tag any white sturgeon that is taken and retained in the sport fishery. Any white sturgeon possessed by any person shall be tagged.

(1) Upon taking and retaining a white sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the following information:

(A) The month, day, fishing location and length of the fish shall be recorded in the appropriate spaces on the tag. Tags shall be used in sequential order.

(B) The month, day, fishing location and length of the fish shall be recorded in the appropriate spaces on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card which corresponds to the number on the tag.

(2) Immediately after recording the information above, the cardholder shall remove and completely detach the tag from the card and affix it to the white sturgeon. Cardholders shall not wait until completion of fishing activity to tag any white sturgeon in possession.

(3) The tag shall be securely fastened to the fish. To affix the tag, a "zip tie", string, line or other suitable material shall be passed through the tag at the location specified on the sturgeon tag and attached to the fish.

(4) Tags shall not be removed from the report card until immediately prior to affixing to a white sturgeon. Any tags detached from the report card and not affixed to a white sturgeon shall be considered used and therefore invalid. No person shall possess any used or otherwise invalid sturgeon tags.

(5) Records of Prior Activity. All tags must be accounted for at all times by entry of a record on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card corresponding to all tags that are not in possession. Any tag that was lost or destroyed shall be recorded as such on the corresponding line on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card.

(c) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish.

(1) Whenever the cardholder catches and releases a sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the month, day, location code, and species of sturgeon.

(2) If all lines in the "sturgeon released" field of the report card are filled, any additional sturgeon caught and released need not be recorded on the card.

(d) Sturgeon tags must be left affixed to the fish in place, including while stored at a residence or non-transient location, until the fish is processed for immediate consumption.

(e) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in Section 701, Title 14, CCR.

27.95. Sturgeon Closure. Green sturgeon and white sturgeon may not be taken in the following described area between January 1 and March 15: That portion of San Francisco Bay included within the following boundaries: A direct line between Pt. Chauncy (National Marine Fisheries Laboratory) and Pt. Richmond, the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and a direct line between Pt. Lobos and Pt. Bonita.

28.00. Grunion, California. May be taken June 1 through March 31.

28.05. Garibaldi. May not be taken or possessed.

28.06. White Shark. White shark may not be taken, except under permit issued by the Department pursuant to Section 1002 of the Fish and Game Code for scientific or educational purposes.

28.10. Giant (Black) Sea Bass.

(a) May not be taken off California. All fish taken incidentally to other fishing activity

shall be immediately returned to the water where taken.

(b) **Limit:** Two per angler per trip when fishing south of United States-Mexico border. A valid fishing permit or license from the Mexican government constitutes proof that fish were taken legally.

28.12. Gulf Grouper and Broomtail Grouper. May not be taken or possessed.

28.15. Halibut, California.

(a) **Limit:** Five in waters south of a line extending due west magnetic from Point Sur, Monterey County, and three in waters north of a line extending due west magnetic from Point Sur, Monterey County.

(b) **Minimum size:** Twenty-two inches total length.

28.20. Halibut, Pacific.

(a) **Season:** Pacific halibut may be taken only from May 1 through October 31.

(b) **Limit:** One.

(c) **Minimum size:** None.

28.25. Barracuda, California.

Minimum size: Twenty-eight inches total length or seventeen inches alternate length.

28.26. California Sheephead.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** Five.

(c) **Minimum size:** 12 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for California sheephead may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

28.27. Lingcod.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:**

Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open April 1 through November 30, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open April 1 through November 30, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** Two.

(c) **Minimum size:** 24 inches total length.

(d) **Method of take:** Not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank.

(e) Fishing rules for lingcod may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

28.28. Cabezon.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** Two fish, within a Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) bag limit of 10 fish.

(c) **Minimum size:** 15 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for cabezon may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

28.29. Kelp Greenling. Rock Greenling.

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints for greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* (including kelp and rock greenlings): See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

Groundfish regulations are based on the latest fishery information and may change during the year. See pg. 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** For greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, within a Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) bag limit of 10 fish, two fish.

(c) **Minimum size:** 12 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

28.30. Kelp Bass, Barred Sand Bass and Spotted Sand Bass.

(a) **Minimum size:** Twelve inches total length or eight and one-half inches alternate length.

(b) **Limit:** Ten in any combination of species.

28.32. Pacific Bonito.

(a) **Limit:** Ten.

(b) **Minimum size:** Twenty-four inches fork length or five pounds except that: Five fish less than twenty-four inches fork length or weighing less than five pounds may be taken and possessed.

(c) The provisions of this section shall only remain operative if the provisions of Section 8377 of the Fish and Game Code, pertaining to the commercial take of Pacific bonito, become operative on March 1, 1982 and remain operative.

28.35. White Seabass.

(a) **Minimum size:** Twenty-eight inches total length or twenty and one-half inches alternate length.

(b) **Season:** Open all year.

(c) **Limit:** Three, except that only one fish may be taken in waters south of Pt. Conception between March 15 and June 15.

28.37. Yellowtail.

(a) **Limit:** Ten

(b) **Minimum size:** Twenty-four inches fork length except that: Five fish less than twenty-four inches fork length may be taken or possessed.

28.38. Tunas.

The following daily bag limits apply:

(a) Albacore:

(1) South of a line running due west true from 34°27'N. lat. (at Point Conception, Santa Barbara County) – The special limit for albacore is 10, which may be taken or possessed in addition to the overall general daily bag limit of 20 finfish specified in sub-section 27.60(a).

(2) North of a line running due west true from 34°27'N. lat. (at Point Conception, Santa Barbara County) – The special limit for albacore is 25, which may be taken or possessed in addition to the overall general daily bag limit of 20 finfish specified in sub-section 27.60(a).

(b) Bluefin tuna – The special limit for bluefin tuna is 10, which may be taken or possessed in addition to the overall general daily bag limit of 20 finfish specified in sub-section 27.60(a).

(c) There is no limit on skipjack tuna.

(d) For yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna, and other tunas not listed above, the limit is 10. Unlike albacore and bluefin tuna, fish taken under this limit shall apply toward the overall general daily bag limit of 20 finfish specified in sub-section 27.60(a).

28.40. Broadbill Swordfish.

(a) **Limit:** Two.

28.41 Sixgill Shark, Sevengill Shark. Limit: One of each species.

28.42 Shortfin Mako Shark, Thresher Shark, and Blue Shark. Limit: Two of each species.

28.45. Surf Smelt (Night Smelt, Day Fish, Whitebait Smelt).

(a) **Limit:** Twenty-five pounds in combination.

28.48. Pacific Sanddab, Rock Sole, Sand Sole, Butter Sole, Curlfin Sole, Rex Sole, and Flathead Sole.

Pacific sanddab, rock sole, sand sole, butter sole, curlfin sole, rex sole, and flathead sole are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. These species are also known in the aggregate as "other flatfish" pursuant to sub-section 1.91(a)(10). Regulations of this Section do not apply to other species of sanddabs, flounders, or sole.

(a) **Open year-round.**

(b) Fishing rules for Pacific sanddab, rock sole, sand sole, butter sole, curlfin sole, rex sole, and flathead sole may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** There is no limit on Pacific sanddab. The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to rock sole, sand sole, butter sole, curlfin sole, rex sole, and flathead sole.

28.49. Dover Sole, English Sole, Petrale Sole, Arrowtooth Flounder, and Starry Flounder. Dover sole, English sole, Petrale sole, arrowtooth flounder and starry flounder are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. Regulations of this Section do not apply to other species of flounder or sole.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for Dover sole, English sole, Petrale sole, arrowtooth flounder and starry flounder may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the

Groundfish regulations are based on the latest fishery information and may change during the year. See pg. 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** There is no limit on Petrale sole or starry flounder. The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to Dover sole, English sole, and arrowtooth flounder.

28.50. Marlin.

(a) **Limit:** One.

28.51. Spiny Dogfish, Soupfin Shark. Spiny dogfish and soupfin shark are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for spiny dogfish and soupfin shark may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** Soupfin shark - one. The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to spiny dogfish.

28.52. Big Skate, California Skate, and Longnose Skate. Big skates, California skates, and longnose skates are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. Regulations in this Section do not apply to other skate species.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for big skates, California skates, and longnose skates may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to big skates, California skates, and longnose skates.

28.53. Ratfish, Rattail and Codling. Ratfish, Pacific rattail and finescale codling are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. Regulations in this Section do not apply to other rattail or codling species.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for ratfish, Pacific rattail and finescale codling may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to ratfish, Pacific rattail and finescale codling.

28.54. California Scorpionfish (Sculpin).

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through

Groundfish regulations are based on the latest fishery information and may change during the year. See pg. 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open January 1 through the last day in February in waters shallower than 40 fathoms, and March 1 through December 31 in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open January 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** Five.

(c) **Minimum size:** 10 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for California scorpionfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

28.55. Rockfish (*Sebastes*).

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms, except that only Nearshore Rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(1) may be taken and possessed.

(b) **Limit:** Ten, within the Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) bag limit of 10 fish, in any combination of species, except as provided below.

(1) The limit on bronzedspotted rockfish, canary rockfish, cowcod, and yelloweye rockfish is zero. These species shall not be taken or possessed as part of the RCG limit.

(2) The limit on bocaccio rockfish is two fish, within the RCG limit.

(3) In the Cowcod Conservation Areas (see Section 27.50), the limit on bocaccio and other shelf and slope rockfish, as defined in subsections 1.91(a)(3) and 1.91(a)(4), is zero. These species shall not be taken or possessed as part of the RCG limit in the Cowcod Conservation Areas.

(c) **Size limit:** None, except no bocaccio may be taken or possessed that is less than 10 inches in total length.

(d) **Method of take:** Not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or a double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank.

(e) Fishing rules for rockfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by

contacting a department office.

28.56. Leopard Shark.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15 in waters shallower than 20 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Humboldt Bay.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Drake's Estero Bay, Bolinas Bay, Tomales Bay, Bodega Harbor, and San Francisco Bay.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Elkhorn Slough.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) **Limit:** three.

(c) **Minimum size:** 36 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for leopard shark may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

28.57. Pacific Cod, Pacific Whiting, Sablefish, and Thornyheads.

Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15 in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release

Groundfish regulations are based on the latest fishery information and may change during the year. See pg. 6 for ways to stay informed of in-season regulation changes.

notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead.

28.58. Ocean Whitefish.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area:** Open June 13 through October 31 in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15 in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) Fishing rules for ocean whitefish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of sub-section 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to ocean whitefish.

28.59. Surfperch.

(a) For the purposes of this section, the term "surfperch" refers to all species of the family Embiotocidae, in any combination.

(b) **Open Season:** Open all year, except surfperch may not be taken or possessed by a person in San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay between April 1 and July 31, inclusive. Shiner surfperch (*Cymatogaster aggregata*) are exempt from this seasonal closure and may be taken and possessed up to their daily bag limit in these areas during the closure period.

(c) Daily bag limits:

(1) In San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay, the aggregate limit is five surfperch, not including shiner surfperch. For all other areas, the aggregate limit is 20 surfperch, not including shiner surfperch. Not more than 10 surfperch may be of any one species.

(2) The special limit for shiner surfperch is 20, which may be taken or possessed in addition to the overall daily bag limit of 20 finfish specified in sub-section 27.60(a).

(d) **Minimum size:** redbtail surfperch, ten and one-half inches total length. All other surfperch: none.

28.60. Herring Eggs.

(a) **Limit:** Twenty-five pounds (including plants) wet weight.

Fin Fish — Gear Restrictions

28.65. General. Except as provided in this article, fin fish may be taken only on hook and line or by hand. Any number of hooks and lines may be used in all ocean waters and bays except:

(a) San Francisco and San Pablo bays between the Golden Gate Bridge and the west Carquinez Bridge, where only one line with not more than three hooks may be used.

(b) On public piers, no person shall use more than two rods and lines, two hand lines, or two nets, traps or other appliances used to take crabs.

(c) When rockfish (genus *Sebastes*) or lingcod (*Ophiodon elongatus*) are aboard or in possession, where only one line with not more than two hooks may be used pursuant to Sections 28.55 or 28.27, respectively.

(d) No gaff hook shall be used to take or assist in landing any finfish shorter than the minimum size limit. For the purpose of this section a gaff hook is any hook with or without a handle used to assist in landing fish or to take fish in such a manner that the fish does not take the hook voluntarily in its mouth. No person shall take finfish from any boat or other floating device in ocean waters without having a landing net in possession or available for immediate use to assist in landing undersize fish of species having minimum size limits; the opening of any such landing net shall be not less than eighteen inches in diameter.

(e) North of Point Conception (34°27'00" N. lat.), where only one rod and line may be used by each angler fishing for salmon, or fishing from any boat or floating device with salmon on board.

(f) Mousetrap gear prohibited: It is unlawful to use, assist in using, or to possess aboard any vessel, hook-and-line gear commonly termed "mouse traps" constructed of a hook(s) or lure(s), attached to one end of a line that is attached to a float, or floats at the other end, and that when fished, is not attached directly to a person or vessel. Possession of such gear aboard a vessel shall be prima facie evidence that the gear is being used in violation of this regulation.

(g) North of Point Conception to Horse Mountain, Section 27.80(a)(3) applies to each angler fishing for salmon or fishing from any boat or floating device with salmon on board.

28.70. Weight, Power Driven Gurdies or Power Driven Winches.

(a) No sinker or weight weighing more than four pounds, nor any power driven gurdy or power driven winch, may be used in any ocean waters or saltwater bays north of Point Arguello. This regulation does not apply to:

(1) Power gurdies or power winches used solely for handling crab nets or traps;

(2) The use of downriggers where the downrigger line is not used as a fishing line but is attached to the fishing line by a breakaway line; or

(3) The use of electric fishing reels manufactured for sport fishing use.

28.75 Baited Traps for Shiner Surfperch, Pacific Staghorn Sculpin and Longjaw Mud Suckers.

In San Francisco and San Pablo bays and their saltwater tributaries, and in the open ocean and the contiguous bays of Mendocino, Sonoma and Marin counties, traps not over three feet in greatest dimension may be used to take shiner surfperch, Pacific staghorn sculpin and longjaw mudsuckers. Any other species taken shall be returned to the water immediately.

28.80. Dip Nets and Hawaiian Type Throw Nets. Dip nets of any size and baited hoop nets not greater than 36 inches in diameter may be used to take herring, Pacific staghorn sculpin, shiner surfperch, surf smelt, topsmelt, anchovies, shrimp and squid. Hawaiian type throw nets may be used north of Point Conception to take such species.

28.85. Beach Nets. Beach nets not over 20 feet in length with meshes at least 7/8 of an inch in length may be used to take surf smelt north of Point Conception.

28.90. Diving, Spearfishing. Persons who are floating or swimming in the water may use spearfishing gear and skin or SCUBA diving equipment to take fin fish other than giant (black) sea bass, garibaldi, gulf grouper, broomtail grouper, trout, salmon, striped bass or broadbill, except that:

(a) No person may possess or use a spear within 100 yards of the mouth of any stream in any ocean waters north of Ventura County.

(b) When spearfishing for or in possession of federal groundfish or associated species as authorized pursuant to sub-sections 27.25(c)(4), 27.30(c)(4), 27.35(c)(4), 27.40(c)(3), 27.45(c)(4) or 27.50(c)(3), in an area or during a season closed to the take of these species, no fishing gear except spearfishing gear may be aboard the vessel or watercraft.

28.91. Slurp Guns. Slurp guns may be used to take finfish except that bag and possession limits shall not be exceeded wherever they apply and no species of finfish may be taken for which a minimum size limit has been established (see Sections 27.60 and 28.00-28.55).

28.95. Spears, Harpoons and Bow and Arrow Fishing Tackle. Spears, harpoons and bow and arrow fishing tackle may be used for taking all varieties of skates, rays, and sharks, except white sharks. Such gear may not be possessed or used within 100 yards of the mouth of any stream in any ocean waters north of Ventura County, nor aboard any vessel on any day or on any trip when broadbill swordfish or marlin have been taken. Bow and arrow fishing tackle may be used to take finfish other than giant (black) sea bass, garibaldi, gulf grouper, broomtail grouper, trout, salmon, striped bass, broadbill swordfish and white shark.

29.00. Gear Used in Taking Grunion. No appliances of any kind may be used to take grunion, and no holes may be dug in the beach to entrap them.

Invertebrates

29.05. General.

(a) Except as provided in this article there are no closed seasons, closed hours or minimum size limits for any invertebrate. The bag limit on all invertebrates for which the take is authorized and for which there is not a bag limit otherwise established in this article is 35. In San Francisco and San Pablo bays and saltwater tributaries east of the Golden Gate Bridge invertebrates may not be taken at night except from the shore.

(b) Take of all invertebrates is prohibited within state marine reserves. Take of certain invertebrates may be prohibited within state marine parks and state marine conservation areas as per subsection 632(b). In addition, tidal invertebrates may not be taken in any tidepool or other areas between the high tide mark (defined as Mean Higher High Tide) and 1,000 feet seaward and lateral to the low tide mark (defined as Mean Lower Low Water) except as follows:

(1) Except where prohibited within state marine reserves, state marine parks, state marine conservation areas, or other special closures only the following may be taken: red abalone, limpets, moon snails, turban snails, chiones, clams, cockles, mussels, rock scallops, native oysters, octopuses, squid, crabs, lobsters, shrimp, sand dollars, sea urchins and worms except that no worms may be taken in any mussel bed, unless taken incidental to the harvesting of mussels.

(c) **Measuring Devices.** Every person while taking invertebrates which have a size limit shall carry a device which is capable of accurately measuring the minimum legal size of the species taken.

(d) In all ocean waters skin and Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus (SCUBA) divers may take invertebrates as provided in this article except that in all ocean waters north of Yankee Point (Monterey Co.), SCUBA may be used only to take sea urchins, rock scallops and crabs of the genus *Cancer*. For the purpose of this section, breathing tubes (snorkels) are not SCUBA.

Mollusks

29.10. General.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this article, saltwater mollusks, including octopus, may be taken only on hook and line or with the hands.

(b) The size of a mollusk is measured in greatest shell diameter.

29.15. Abalone.

(a) **Geographical Area:** Abalone may only be taken north of a line drawn due west magnetic from the center of the mouth of San Francisco Bay. No abalone may be taken, landed, or possessed if landed south of this line.

(b) **Open Season and Hours:** Abalone may be taken only during the months of April, May, June, August, September, October and November from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

(c) **Bag Limit and Yearly Trip Limit:** Three red abalone, *Haliotis rufescens*, may be taken per day. No more than three abalone may be possessed at any time. No other species of abalone may be taken or possessed. Each person taking abalone shall stop detaching abalone when the

limit of three is reached. No person shall take more than 24 abalone during a calendar year.

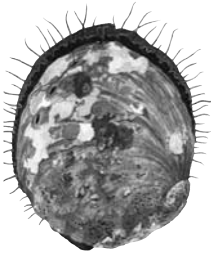
(d) **Minimum Abalone Size:** All red abalone must be seven inches or greater measured along the longest shell diameter. All legal-sized abalone detached must be retained. No undersize abalone may be brought ashore or aboard any boat, placed in any type of receiver, kept on the person, or retained in any person's possession or under his control. Undersize abalone must be replaced immediately to the same surface of the rock from which detached. Abalone brought ashore shall be in such a condition that the size can be determined.

(e) **Special Gear Provisions:** The use of SCUBA gear or surface-supplied air to take abalone is prohibited. Abalone may not be taken or possessed aboard any boat, vessel, or floating device in the water containing SCUBA or surface-supplied air. Abalone may be taken only by hand or by devices commonly known as abalone irons. Abalone irons must be less than 36 inches long, straight or with a curve having a radius of not less than 18 inches, and must not be less than 3/4 inch wide nor less than 1/16 inch thick. All edges must be rounded and free of sharp edges. Knives, screwdrivers and sharp instruments are prohibited.

(f) **Measuring Device:** Every person while taking abalone shall carry a fixed-caliper measuring gauge capable of accurately measuring seven inches. The measuring device shall have fixed opposing arms of sufficient length to measure the abalone by placing the gauge over the shell.

(g) **Abalone Possession and Transportation:** Abalones shall not be removed from their shell, except when being prepared for immediate consumption.

(h) **Report Card Required:** Any person fishing for or taking abalone shall have in their possession a non-transferable Abalone Report Card issued by the department and shall adhere to all reporting and tagging requirements for abalone defined in Sections 1.74 and 29.16, Title 14, CCR.



*original full-color
abalone illustration by
Amadeo Bachar*

IMPORTANT REMINDER: ABALONE REPORT CARDS ARE NOW REQUIRED FOR CHILDREN AND ON FREE FISHING DAYS

- Abalone divers and rock-pickers will need to have their card in their immediate possession while diving and rock-picking, and will be required to tag each abalone they take in addition to recording their catches immediately after the exiting the water.
- Every abalone retained or possessed must be tagged, regardless of whether the person retaining or possessing the abalone is the person who actually caught the abalone.
- Each tag must be securely fastened to the shell of the abalone by passing a "zip tie", string, line or other suitable material through a siphon hole on the abalone shell and also through the tag itself.
- Used abalone tags must be left affixed to the shell until the abalone is processed for immediate consumption.

29.16. Abalone Report Card and Tagging Requirements

(a) **Abalone Report Card Required.** All individuals including divers must have an Abalone Report Card in their immediate possession while fishing for or taking red abalone. Individuals must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74.

(b) **Tagging Requirements.** An Abalone Report Card includes detachable tags that shall be used to tag any abalone that is taken and retained in the sport fishery. Any red abalone possessed by any person shall be tagged.

(1) Cardholders shall tag any red abalone either immediately upon exiting the water or immediately upon boarding a vessel, whichever occurs first. For the purposes of this section a vessel is defined as any watercraft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water (reference Section 9840(a) CVC). Cardholders shall not wait to return to their vehicle, beach site or other location to tag any abalone in possession.

EXCEPTION: Cardholders who dive from a non-motorized vessel such as a kayak that is in the water may wait until immediately after disembarking from the non-motorized vessel to tag and record any abalone in possession, but shall not transfer any abalone from his or her immediate

possession unless they are first tagged and recorded on the report card.

(2) The cardholder shall fill in the month, day, time of catch, and fishing location on the abalone tag, remove and completely detach the tag from the card, and affix it to the shell of the abalone.

(3) The tag shall be securely fastened to the shell of the abalone. To affix the tag, a "zip tie", string, line or other suitable material shall be passed through a siphon hole on the abalone shell and through the tag at the location specified on the abalone tag.

(4) Tags shall be used in sequential order, and shall not be removed from the report card until immediately prior to affixing to an abalone. Any tags detached from the report card and not affixed to an abalone shall be considered used and therefore invalid.

(5) No person shall possess any used or otherwise invalid abalone tags not attached to an abalone shell.

(c) **Reporting Requirements.** Immediately upon tagging all abalone in possession, the cardholder shall record the month, day, time of catch, and fishing location in the appropriate spaces on the numbered line on the Abalone Report Card which corresponds to the number on the tag attached to the abalone.

(d) **Records of Prior Activity.** All tags must be accounted for at all times by entry of a record on the Abalone Report Card corresponding to all tags that are not in possession. Any tag that was lost or destroyed shall be recorded as such on the corresponding line on the Abalone Report Card. Any tag that was inadvertently removed and is still in possession shall be recorded as void on both the tag and the corresponding line on the Abalone Report Card.

(e) Abalone tags must be left affixed to the shell, including while stored at a residence or non-transient location, until the abalone is processed for immediate consumption.

(f) The annual fee for the Abalone Report Card is specified in Section 7149.8 of the Fish and Game Code.

29.20. Clams General.

(a) Except as provided in this article, there are no closed seasons, bag limits or size limits on saltwater clams.

(b) **Fishing hours:** One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

(c) **Special gear provisions:** Spades, shovels, hoes, rakes or other appliances operated by hand, except spears or gaff hooks, may be used to take clams. No instrument capable of being used to dig clams may be possessed between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise, on any beach of this state, except tools and implements used in the work of cleaning, repairing or maintaining such beach when possessed by a person authorized by appropriate authority to perform such work.

(d) **Clams ashore:** Clams which have a size limit when being taken must be brought ashore above the high water mark in such a condition that the size can be determined. Such clams not in the shell may not be transported or possessed, except when being prepared for immediate consumption. Clams which have a size limit and are not retained shall be immediately reburied in the area from which dug.

29.25. Gaper Clams (Horse Clams and Horseneck Clams) and Washington Clams.

(a) **Limit:** Ten of each species, except in Humboldt Bay the limit is fifty in combination; however, no more than 25 gaper clams may be taken or possessed. In Elkhorn Slough the limit is twelve in combination. All gaper clams and Washington clams dug, regardless of size or broken condition, must be retained until the bag limit is reached. For purposes of this section, clams commonly termed horse clams or horseneck clams are gaper clams, not geoduck clams regulated pursuant to Section 29.30.

29.30. Geoduck Clams.

(a) **Limit:** Three. The first three geoduck clams dug must be retained as the bag limit regardless of size or broken condition. For purposes of this section, clams commonly termed horse clams or horseneck clams are not geoduck clams.

29.35. Littleneck Clams, Soft-Shell Clams, Chiones, Northern Quahogs, and Cockles.

(a) **Limit:** Fifty in combination.

(b) **Minimum size:** One and one-half inches in greatest diameter, except there is no size

limit for soft-shell clams. All soft-shell clams dug, regardless of size or broken condition, must be retained until the bag limit is reached.

29.40. Pismo Clams.

(a) **Open season:** May be taken in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties September 1 through April 30. In all other counties, except in state marine reserves or other marine protected areas which prohibit the take of clams (see Section 632), Pismo clams may be taken at any time of the year.

(b) **Limit:** Ten.

(c) **Minimum size:** Five inches in greatest shell diameter north of the boundary between San Luis Obispo and Monterey counties; four and one-half inches in greatest shell diameter south of the boundary, between San Luis Obispo and Monterey counties.

(d) **Clam preserves:** No clams shall be taken within state marine reserves or other marine protected areas which prohibit the take of clams (see Section 632).

29.45. Razor Clams.

(a) **Open season:**

(1) Little River Beach in Humboldt County: Between Mad River and Strawberry Creek open only during even-numbered years; between Strawberry Creek and Moonstone Beach open only during odd-numbered years.

(2) In Del Norte County: North of Battery Point open only during odd-numbered years; south of Battery Point open only during even-numbered years.

(3) All other areas: Open all year.

(b) **Limit:** Twenty. The first twenty clams dug must be retained as the bag limit regardless of size or broken condition.

29.55. Mussels.

(a) **Limit:** Ten pounds (in the shell) of California sea mussels and bay mussels in combination.

29.60. Rock Scallops.

(a) **Limit:** Ten.

(b) **Methods of take:** Rock scallops may be taken only by hand, by the use of dive knives, or by devices commonly known as abalone irons in compliance with provisions of Section 29.15(e) of these regulations.

29.65. Speckled (Bay) Scallops. May not be taken or possessed.

29.70. Market Squid, Jumbo Squid. Squid may be taken with hand-held dip nets. There is no limit.

29.71. Moon Snails.

(a) **Limit:** Five.

(b) **Open season:** All year except that moon snails may not be taken north of the Golden Gate Bridge.

Crustaceans

29.80. Gear Restrictions.

(a) General Provisions:

(1) Saltwater crustaceans may be taken by hand.

(2) Nets, traps or other appliances may not be used except as provided in this Section.

(3) It is unlawful to disturb, move, or damage any trap, or remove any saltwater crustacean from a trap, that belongs to another person without written permission in possession from the owner of the trap.

(b) Baited hoop nets may be used to take spiny lobsters and all species of crabs. Between Point Arguello, Santa Barbara County, and the United States-Mexico border, not more than five baited hoop nets may be fished by a person to take spiny lobster and crab, not to exceed a total of 10 baited hoop nets fished from any vessel. [see Section 28.65(b) for gear restrictions on public piers]

(c) Crab traps shall have at least two rigid circular openings of not less than four and one-quarter inches inside diameter so constructed that the lowest portion of each opening is no lower than five inches from the top of the trap.

(d) Crab loop traps may have up to six loops.

(e) Crab trap areas: Crab traps, including crab loop traps, may be used north of Point Arguello to take all species of crabs (see regulations for take of Dungeness crabs in traps from commercial passenger fishing vessels in Section 29.85, Title 14, CCR).

(f) Shrimp and prawn traps may be used to take shrimp and prawns only. Trap openings may not exceed 1/2 inch in any dimension on traps used south of Point Conception nor five inches in any dimension on traps used north of Point Conception.

(g) Diving for crustaceans: In all ocean waters, except as provided in Section 29.05, skin and SCUBA divers may take crustaceans by the use of the hands only. Divers may not possess any hooked device while diving or attempting to dive.

(h) Hand operated appliances: Spades, shovels, hoes, rakes or other appliances operated by hand may be used to take sand crabs and shrimp.

(i) Dip nets and Hawaiian type throw nets: Shrimp may be taken with dip nets and Hawaiian type throw nets north of Point Conception.

(j) Shrimp trawls: Shrimp beam trawls may be used to take shrimp only in San Francisco Bay waters east of the Golden Gate Bridge, and in San Pablo Bay. The beam trawl frame from which the net is hung may not exceed 24 inches by 18 inches. The trawl may be towed by motorized vessels but may not be retrieved by mechanical devices. Any fish, other than shrimp, caught in the trawl must be returned immediately to the water.

Dungeness Crab Openers and Closures Through the 2009-2010 Season	
<i>First Day of Season</i>	<i>Last Day of Season</i>
Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties	
Saturday November 1, 2008	Thursday July 30, 2009
Saturday November 7, 2009	Friday July 30, 2010
All Other Counties	
Saturday November 1, 2008	Tuesday June 30, 2009
Saturday November 7, 2009	Wednesday June 30, 2010

29.85. Crabs.

(a) **Dungeness crabs** (*Cancer magister*):

(1) **Closure:** Dungeness crab may not be taken from or possessed if taken from San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay, plus all their tidal bays, sloughs and estuaries between the Golden Gate Bridge and Carquinez Bridge.

(2) **Open season:**

(A) Del Norte, Humboldt and Mendocino counties: From the first Saturday in November through July 30.

(B) All other counties: From the first Saturday in November through June 30.

(3) **Limit:** Ten, except in Sonoma, Marin,

San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Monterey counties, when fishing aboard a commercial passenger fishing vessel required to be licensed pursuant to Section 7881 and/or Section 7920, Fish and Game Code, the limit is six.

(4) Not more than 60 crab traps are authorized to be used to take Dungeness crab from a vessel operating under authority of a Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel License issued pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 7920.

(5) Traps and trap buoys used by a commercial passenger fishing vessel to take Dungeness crab under authority of this Section and Section 29.80 shall have the commercial boat registration number of that vessel affixed to each trap and buoy.

(6) No vessel that takes Dungeness crabs under authority of this section, or Section 29.80, shall be used to take Dungeness crabs for commercial purposes.

(7) **Minimum size:** Five and three-quarter inches measured by the shortest distance through the body from edge of shell to edge of shell directly in front of and excluding the points (lateral spines); except in Sonoma, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Monterey counties, when fishing aboard a commercial passenger fishing vessel required to be licensed pursuant to Section 7881 and/or Section 7920, Fish and Game Code, the minimum size is six inches measured by the shortest distance through the body from edge of shell to edge of shell directly in front of and excluding the points (lateral spines).

(b) **All crabs of the *Cancer* genus except Dungeness crabs, but including: yellow crabs, rock crabs, red crabs and slender crabs:**

(1) Open season: All year.

(2) Limit: Thirty-five.

(3) Minimum size: Four inches measured by the shortest distance through the body, from edge of shell to edge of shell at the widest part, except there is no minimum size in Fish and Game Districts 8 and 9.

(c) All crabs of the genus *Cancer*, including Dungeness crabs, yellow crabs, rock crabs, red crabs and slender crabs, may be brought to the surface of the water for measuring, but no undersize crabs may be placed in any type of receiver, kept on the person or retained in any person's possession or under his direct control; all crabs shall be measured immediately and any undersize crabs shall be released immediately into the water.

(d) **Sand crabs** (*Emerita analoga*): Limit: Fifty.

29.86. Bay Shrimp (Grass Shrimp).

(a) **Limit:** Five pounds.

29.87. Ghost Shrimp and Blue Mud Shrimp.

(a) **Limit:** Fifty in combination.

29.88. Coonstripe shrimp (*Pandalus danae*). Twenty pounds (in the shell, heads on) per day. The first 20 pounds taken, regardless of size or condition, shall constitute a daily bag and possession limit.

29.90. Spiny Lobsters.

(a) **Open season:** From the Saturday preceding the first Wednesday in October through the first Wednesday after the 15th of March.

(b) **Limit:** Seven.

(c) **Minimum size:** Three and one-fourth

inches measured in a straight line on the mid-line of the back from the rear edge of the eye socket to the rear edge of the body shell. Any lobster may be brought to the surface of the water for the purpose of measuring, but no undersize lobster may be brought aboard any boat, placed in any type of receiver, kept on the person or retained in any person's possession or under his direct control; all lobsters shall be measured immediately upon being brought to the surface of the water, and any undersize lobster shall be released immediately into the water.

(d) **Report Card Required:** Any person fishing for or taking spiny lobster shall have in their possession a non-transferable Spiny Lobster Report Card issued by the department and shall adhere to all reporting requirements for lobster defined in Sections 1.74 and 29.91, Title 14, CCR.

Spiny Lobster Openers and Closures Through the 2009-2010 Season	
First Day of Season	Last Day of Season
Saturday September 27, 2008	Wednesday March 18, 2009
Saturday October 3, 2009	Wednesday March 17, 2010



original full-color spiny
lobster illustration by
Amadeo Bachar

IMPORTANT REMINDER: SPINY LOBSTER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- Persons fishing for or taking spiny lobster must have a lobster report card.
- Prior to beginning lobster fishing activity, the cardholder must record the month, day, location and gear code on the first available line on the report card. When the cardholder moves to another location, switches gear, or finishes fishing for the day, he or she must immediately record on the card the number of lobster kept for that location using a particular gear type. New lines must be used when changing locations, days, or gear types.
- Unlike abalone report cards, an additional lobster report card may be purchased in the event an individual fills in all lines and returns the card.

29.91. Spiny Lobster Report Card Requirements for Ocean Waters.

(a) **Spiny Lobster Report Card Required.** All individuals must have a Spiny Lobster Report Card in their possession while fishing for or taking lobster. In the case of a person diving from a boat, the report card may be kept in the boat, or in the case of a person diving from the shore, the report card may be kept within 500 yards from the point of entry. Individuals must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74.

(b) Prior to beginning fishing activity, the cardholder must record the month, day, location, and gear code on the first available line on the report card.

(c) When the cardholder moves to another location code, or finishes fishing for the day, he or she must immediately record on the card the number of lobster kept from that location.

(d) In the event an individual fills in all lines and returns a Spiny Lobster Report Card, an

additional card may be purchased. See Section 1.74.

(e) The annual fee for the Spiny Lobster Report Card is specified in Section 701, Title 14, CCR.

REMINDER: California Fish and Game Code, Section 5508, states that "It is unlawful to possess on any boat or to bring ashore any fish upon which a size or weight limit is prescribed in such a condition that its size or weight cannot be determined. The commission may adopt regulations, under which fish other than whole fish may be brought ashore, which establish sizes or weights for cleaned or otherwise cut fish equivalent to sizes or weights for whole fish." (see Section 27.65).

Non-Commercial Use of Marine Plants

30.00. Kelp General.

(a) Except as provided in this section and in Section 30.10 there is no closed season, closed hours or minimum size limit for any species of marine aquatic plant. The daily bag limit on all marine aquatic plants for which the take is authorized, except as provided in Section 28.60, is 10 pounds wet weight in the aggregate.

(b) Marine aquatic plants may not be cut or harvested in state marine reserves. Regulations within state marine conservation areas and state marine parks may prohibit cutting or harvesting of marine aquatic plants per sub-section 632(b).

30.10. Prohibited Species. No eel grass (*Zostera*), surf grass (*Phyllospadix*), or sea palm (*Postelsia*) may be cut or disturbed.

California Marine Protected Areas

632. Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Special Closures. The areas specified in this section have been declared by the commission to be marine protected areas or special closures. Public use of marine protected areas or special closures shall be compatible with the primary purposes of such areas, and subject to the following applicable general rules and regulations, except as otherwise provided for in sub-section 632(b), areas and special regulations for use. Nothing in this section expressly or implicitly precludes, restricts or requires modification of current or future uses of the waters identified as marine protected areas, special closures, or the lands or waters adjacent to these designated areas by the Department of Defense, its allies or agents.

(a) General Rules and Regulations:

(1) Protection of Resources.

(A) **State Marine Reserves:** In a state marine reserve, it is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any living, geological, or cultural marine resource, except under a permit or specific authorization from the commission for research, restoration, or monitoring purposes.

(B) **State Marine Parks:** In a state marine park, it is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any living or nonliving marine resource for commercial exploitation purposes. Any human use that would compromise protection of the species of interest, natural community or habitat, or geological, cultural, or recreational features, may be restricted by the commission as specified in sub-section 632(b), Areas and Special Regulations for Use. The commission may permit research, monitoring, and educational activities and certain recreational harvest in a manner consistent with protecting resource values.

For detailed descriptions and maps of California's Marine Protected Areas go to:

www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa

Note: Online maps are not for navigational purposes

(C) **State Marine Conservation Areas:** In a state marine conservation area, it is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any living, geological, or cultural marine resource for commercial or recreational purposes, or a combination of commercial and recreational purposes except as specified in sub-section 632(b), areas and special regulations for use. The commission may permit research, education, and recreational activities, and certain commercial and recreational harvest of marine resources, provided that these uses do not compromise protection of the species of interest, natural community, habitat, or geological features.

(2) **Pelagic Finfish.** Pelagic finfish, for the purpose of this section, are defined as: northern anchovy (*Engraulis mordax*), barracudas (*Sphyræna* spp.), billfishes* (family Istiophoridae), dolphinfish (*Coryphaena hippurus*), Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*), jack mackerel (*Trachurus symmetricus*), Pacific mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*), salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.), Pacific sardine (*Sardinops sagax*), blue shark (*Prionace glauca*), salmon shark (*Lamna ditropis*), shortfin mako shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*), thresher sharks (*Alopias* spp.), swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*), tunas (family Scombridae), and yellowtail (*Seriola lalandi*). *Marlin is not allowed for commercial take.

(3) **Access.** Access into marine protected areas for non-consumptive uses including but not limited to swimming, surfing, diving, boating, hiking and walking is allowed unless otherwise specified in sub-section 632(b), areas and special regulations for use.

(4) **Ejection.** Employees of the department may eject any person from a marine protected area for violation of any of these rules or regulations or for any reason when it appears that the general safety or welfare of the marine protected area, its associated flora and fauna, or persons thereon is endangered.

(5) **Introduction of Species.** Unless authorized by the commission, the release of any fish or wildlife species, including domestic or domesticated species, or the introduction of any plant species, is prohibited. The department may reintroduce endemic species to marine protected areas for management purposes.

(6) **Feeding of Wildlife.** The feeding of wildlife is prohibited.

(7) **Anchoring.** Vessels shall be allowed to anchor in any marine protected area with catch onboard unless otherwise specified in sub-section 632(b), Areas and Special Regulations for Use. Fishing gear shall be stowed and not in use while anchored in a state marine reserve. Fishing gear, except legal fishing gear used to take species identified as allowed for take in sub-section 632(b), shall be stowed and not in use while anchored in a state marine park or state marine conservation area. Anchoring regulations shall be consistent with federal law and allowances made for anchoring required by emergency or severe weather.

(8) **Transit.** Vessels shall be allowed to transit through marine protected areas with catch onboard. Fishing gear shall be stowed and not in use while transiting through a state marine reserve. Fishing gear, except legal fishing gear used to take species identified as allowed for take in sub-section 632(b), shall be stowed and not in use while transiting through a state marine park or state marine conservation area.

There are numerous areas along the California coast that have regulations more restrictive than the general fishing regulations.

THESE AREAS, KNOWN AS **MARINE PROTECTED AREAS** (MPAs) are designated to protect, conserve, or enhance marine life. The following table lists all existing MPAs in ocean and estuarine waters that regulate sport fishing, and their general restrictions. Detailed boundary descriptions of selected areas that either prohibit or severely restrict sport fishing are located after the table. For boundaries of areas not listed, please contact the Department's Marine Region in Monterey at (831) 649-2870 or Los Alamitos at (562) 342-7100.

Note: Within each county, these areas are arranged from north to south. MPAs that have overlapping boundaries are noted in the table. When regulations differ between overlapping areas, the more restrictive regulations for the targeted species apply. In certain areas, the type of gear used and locations where fishing may occur are also restricted; this table provides only a summary of the species restrictions in each area. Special Closures are also included in this table. While technically they do not meet the definition of a Marine Protected Area, their restrictions differ significantly from the surrounding areas. They are included here for ease of identification by the public. For more information please see the Department web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa or contact your local Marine Region Department office.

COUNTY / SITE NAME	SPECIES PROHIBITED For Recreational Take	SPECIES ALLOWED For Recreational Take
Humboldt County		
Punta Gorda State Marine Reserve	All	None
Mendocino County		
MacKerricher State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹	Red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹ Finfish
Point Cabrillo State Marine Conservation Area	All	None
Russian Gulch State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹	Red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹ Finfish
Van Damme State Marine Conservation Area	Same as above	Same as above
Manchester & Arena Rock State Marine Conservation Area	Same as above	Same as above
Sonoma County		
Del Mar Landing State Marine Park	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish
Salt Point State Marine Conservation Area (overlaps Gerstle Cove SMCA)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹	Red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹ Finfish
Gerstle Cove State Marine Conservation Area (overlaps Salt Point SMCA)	All	None
Fort Ross State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹	Red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹ Finfish
Sonoma Coast State Marine Conservation Area (overlaps Bodega SMR)	Same as above	Same as above
Bodega State Marine Reserve (overlaps Sonoma Coast SMCA)	All	None
Napa County		
Fagan Marsh State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants	Invertebrates Finfish by hook and line
Marin County		
Tomas Bay State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants	Invertebrates Finfish by hook and line
Point Reyes Headlands State Marine Conservation Area	All	None
Estero de Limantour State Marine Conservation Area (estuarine)	All	None

SMR= State Marine Reserve SMCA=State Marine Conservation Area*continued on page 61*

COUNTY / SITE NAME	SPECIES PROHIBITED For Recreational Take	SPECIES ALLOWED For Recreational Take
Duxbury Reef State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT red abalone, Dungeness crab and rock crabs All finfish EXCEPT rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), lingcod, cabezon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), halibut, flounder, sole, turbot, salmon, kelp greenling, striped bass, steelhead, monkeyface eel, wolf eel, smelt and silversides	Red abalone, Dungeness crab, rock crabs Rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), lingcod, cabezon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), halibut, flounder, sole, turbot, salmon, kelp greenling, striped bass, steelhead, monkeyface eel, wolf eel, smelt and silversides
Corte Madera Marsh State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants	Invertebrates; Finfish by hook and line from shore only
Marin Islands State Marine Park (estuarine)	Same as above	Same as above
San Francisco County		
Farallon Islands State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants Area closure: Mar. 15-Aug. 15	Invertebrates; Finfish (outside area closures)
Solano County		
Peytonia Slough State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants	Invertebrates; Finfish by hook and line
Alameda County		
Albany Mudflats State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants	Invertebrates; Finfish by hook and line from shore only
Robert W. Crown State Marine Conservation Area (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish by hook and line
San Mateo County		
Redwood Shores State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants	Invertebrates; Finfish by hook and line
Bair Island State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants EXCEPT kelp	Kelp; Invertebrates; Finfish by hook and line from shore only
James V. Fitzgerald State Marine Park	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates All finfish EXCEPT rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), lingcod, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), monkeyface eel, rock eel, white croaker, halibut, cabezon, kelp greenling, and smelt (Families Osmeridae and Atherinidae)	Rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), lingcod, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), monkeyface eel, rock eel, white croaker, halibut, cabezon, kelp greenling, and smelt (Families Osmeridae and Atherinidae) by hook and line or spear
Año Nuevo State Marine Conservation Area	All	None
Santa Cruz County		
Greyhound Rock State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants EXCEPT giant kelp by hand harvest only All invertebrates EXCEPT squid All finfish EXCEPT salmon and, by hook-and-line from shore only, other finfish	Giant kelp by hand harvest only; squid, salmon and, by hook-and-line from shore only, other finfish.
Natural Bridges State Marine Reserve	All	None

SMP= State Marine Park

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COUNTY / SITE NAME	SPECIES PROHIBITED For Recreational Take	SPECIES ALLOWED For Recreational Take
Monterey County		
Elkhorn Slough State Marine Reserve	All	None
Elkhorn Slough State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All finfish EXCEPT finfish taken by hook-and-line only All invertebrates EXCEPT clams taken on the north shore of the slough in the area adjacent to the Moss Landing State Wildlife Area.	Finfish by hook and line only, and clams taken on the north shore of the slough in the area adjacent to the Moss Landing State Wildlife Area.
Moro Cojo Slough State Marine Reserve	All	None
Soquel Canyon State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates All finfish EXCEPT pelagic finfish ³	Pelagic finfish ³
Portuguese Ledge State Marine Conservation Area	Same as above	Same as above
Edward F. Ricketts State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates All finfish EXCEPT finfish taken by hook-and-line only	Finfish by hook and line only
Lovers Point State Marine Reserve	All	None
Pacific Grove Marine Gardens State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish
Asilomar State Marine Reserve	All	None
Carmel Pinnacles State Marine Reserve	All	None
Carmel Bay State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish
Point Lobos State Marine Reserve	All	None
Point Lobos State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates All finfish EXCEPT salmon and albacore	Salmon, albacore
Point Sur State Marine Reserve	All	None
Point Sur State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates All finfish EXCEPT salmon and albacore	Salmon, albacore
Big Creek State Marine Reserve	All	None
Big Creek State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates All finfish EXCEPT salmon and albacore	Salmon, albacore
San Luis Obispo County		
Piedras Blancas State Marine Reserve	All	None

SMR= State Marine Reserve SMCA=State Marine Conservation Area

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COUNTY / SITE NAME	SPECIES PROHIBITED For Recreational Take	SPECIES ALLOWED For Recreational Take
Piedras Blancas State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates All finfish EXCEPT salmon and albacore	Salmon, albacore
White Rock (Cambria) State Marine Conservation Area	All	None
Morro Bay State Marine Recreational Management Area	South of latitude 35°19.70' N : All	North of latitude 35°19.70' N: Finfish. Finfish taken outside the Morro Bay State Marine Recreational Management Area may be stored in a receiver for bait purposes
Morro Bay State Marine Reserve	All	None
Point Buchon State Marine Reserve	All	None
Point Buchon State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates All finfish EXCEPT salmon and albacore	Salmon and albacore
Santa Barbara County		
Vandenberg State Marine Reserve	All	None
Refugio State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹	Chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallop, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹ ; Finfish
Goleta Slough State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants	Invertebrates; Finfish by hook and line in designated areas
Richardson Rock State Marine Reserve ² (San Miguel Island)	All	None
Harris Point State Marine Reserve ² (San Miguel Island)	All	None
Judith Rock State Marine Reserve ² (San Miguel Island)	All	None
Special Closure: San Miguel Island	Boating prohibited within 300 yards from shore between Castle Rock and Judith Rock except as noted	Boats may approach no nearer than 100 yards from shore during the period(s) from Mar. 15-April 30, and Oct. 1-December 15
Carrington Point State Marine Reserve ² (Santa Rosa Island)	All	None
Skunk Point State Marine Reserve (Santa Rosa Island)	All	None
South Point State Marine Reserve ² (Santa Rosa Island)	All	None
Painted Cave State Marine Conservation Area ² (Santa Cruz Island)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT lobster All finfish EXCEPT pelagic finfish ³	Lobster; Pelagic finfish ³
Gull Island State Marine Reserve ² (Santa Cruz Island)	All	None
Scorpion State Marine Reserve ² (Santa Cruz Island)	All	None
Santa Barbara Island State Marine Reserve ²	All	None

SMP= State Marine Park

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COUNTY / SITE NAME	SPECIES PROHIBITED For Recreational Take	SPECIES ALLOWED For Recreational Take
Ventura County		
Anacapa Island State Marine Conservation Area ²	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT lobster All finfish EXCEPT pelagic finfish ³	Lobster; Pelagic finfish ³
Anacapa Island State Marine Reserve ²	All	None
Footprint (Anacapa Channel) State Marine Reserve	All	None
Special Closure: Anacapa Island Pelican Fledgling Area	No entry Jan. 1-Oct. 31	Entry allowed Nov. 1-Dec. 31
Big Sycamore Canyon State Marine Reserve	All	None
Los Angeles County		
Abalone Cove State Marine Park	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish by hook and line or spear
Point Fermin State Marine Park	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT lobster All fishes EXCEPT rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab	Lobster; Rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab by hook and line or by spear fishing gear
Special Closure: Arrow Pt. to Lions Head Pt. (Catalina Island) Invertebrate Area	All invertebrates	Marine aquatic plants; Finfish
Catalina Marine Science Center State Marine Reserve (Catalina Island)	All	None
Farnsworth Bank State Marine Conservation Area (Catalina Island)	Purple coral	All marine aquatic plants Invertebrates EXCEPT purple coral; Finfish
Lovers Cove State Marine Conservation Area (Catalina Island)	All	None
Orange County		
Bolsa Chica State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants	Invertebrates; Finfish by hook and line in designated areas
Upper Newport Bay State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants EXCEPT kelp	Kelp; Invertebrates; Finfish by hook and line

SMR= State Marine Reserve SMCA=State Marine Conservation Area
SMP= State Marine Park

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Have a Question? Need Help Identifying a Fish?



E-mail your questions to:
AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov

COUNTY / SITE NAME	SPECIES PROHIBITED For Recreational Take	SPECIES ALLOWED For Recreational Take
Robert E. Badham State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT lobster All fishes EXCEPT rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab	Lobster; Rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab by hook and line or by spearfishing gear
Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area (overlaps Irvine Coast SMCA)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹	Chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms; ¹ Finfish
Irvine Coast State Marine Conservation Area (overlaps Crystal Cove SMCA)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT lobster All fishes EXCEPT rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab	Lobster; Rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab by hook and line or by spearfishing gear
Laguna Beach State Marine Conservation Area (overlaps Heisler Park SMR)	Same as above	Same as above
Heisler Park State Marine Reserve (overlaps Laguna Beach SMP)	All	None
South Laguna Beach State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT lobster All fishes EXCEPT rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab	Lobster; Rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab by hook and line or by spearfishing gear
Niguel State Marine Conservation Area	Same as above	Same as above

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COUNTY / SITE NAME	SPECIES PROHIBITED For Recreational Take	SPECIES ALLOWED For Recreational Take
Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All species between the mean high tide and mean lower-low water lines (intertidal zone) All invertebrates outside the intertidal zone EXCEPT lobster All fish outside the intertidal zone EXCEPT rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab	None between the mean high tide and mean lower-low water lines (intertidal zone); Lobster outside the intertidal zone; Rockfish, greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot, and sanddab outside the intertidal zone by hook and line or by spearfishing gear
Doheny State Marine Conservation Area (overlaps Doheny Beach SMCA)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹	Chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms; ¹ Finfish
Doheny Beach State Marine Conservation Area (overlaps Doheny SMCA)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT lobster All fishes EXCEPT rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab	Lobster; Rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot and sanddab by hook and line or by spearfishing gear
San Diego County		
Buena Vista Lagoon State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish by hook and line during designated times and in designated areas
Agua Hedionda Lagoon State Marine Reserve (estuarine)	All	None
Batiquitos Lagoon State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish by hook and line from shore
Encinitas State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish
Cardiff-San Elijo State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates EXCEPT chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹	Chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and worms ¹ ; Finfish
San Elijo Lagoon State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish by hook and line from shore
San Dieguito Lagoon State Marine Park (estuarine)	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish by hook and line from shore and the Grand Avenue Bridge

SMR= State Marine Reserve
SMP= State Marine Park

SMCA=State Marine Conservation Area

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COUNTY / SITE NAME	SPECIES PROHIBITED For Recreational Take	SPECIES ALLOWED For Recreational Take
San Diego-Scripps State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish
La Jolla State Marine Conservation Area	All	None
Mia J. Tegner State Marine Conservation Area	All marine aquatic plants All invertebrates	Finfish

¹ No worms may be taken in any mussel bed unless taken incidentally to the take of mussels.

² The Channel Islands MPAs were already adopted using the Marine Managed Areas Improvement Act naming classifications.

³ Pelagic finfish are defined as: northern anchovy (*Engraulis mordax*), barracudas (*Sphyraena* spp.), billfishes* (family Istiophoridae), dolphinfish (*Coryphaena hippurus*), Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*), jack mackerel (*Trachurus symmetricus*), Pacific mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*), salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.), Pacific sardine (*Sardinops sagax*), blue shark (*Prionace glauca*), salmon shark (*Lamna ditropis*), shortfin mako shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*), thresher sharks (*Alopias* spp.), swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*), tunas (family Scombridae), and yellowtail (*Seriola lalandi*).

For detailed descriptions and maps of
California's Marine Protected Areas go to:

www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa

Note: Online maps are not for navigational purposes

The following areas either prohibit or severely restrict sport fishing. Note that other restrictions and regulations on fishing or access may apply. All geographic coordinates listed use the North American Datum 1983 (NAD83) reference datum:

Punta Gorda State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the three-fathom inshore depth contour, the 30-fathom depth contour and the following points:

40° 16.43' N. lat. 124° 22.00' W. long.;
40° 16.43' N. lat. 124° 23.50' W. long.;
40° 14.83' N. lat. 124° 23.18' W. long.; and
40° 15.23' N. lat. 124° 21.62' W. long.

Point Cabrillo State Marine Conservation Area. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, a distance of 1000 feet seaward of mean lower low water, and the following points:

39° 21.24' N. lat. 123° 49.25' W. long.;
39° 21.33' N. lat. 123° 49.64' W. long.;
39° 20.66' N. lat. 123° 49.68' W. long.; and
39° 20.57' N. lat. 123° 49.27' W. long.

Gerstle Cove State Marine Conservation Area. This area lies within the Salt Point State Marine Conservation Area and is bounded by the mean high tide line and a straight line connecting the following points:

38° 33.93' N. lat. 123° 19.85' W. long.; and
38° 33.93' N. lat. 123° 19.65' W. long.

Bodega State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, a distance of 1000 feet seaward of mean lower low water, and the following points:

38° 19.38' N. lat. 123° 04.47' W. long.;
38° 19.57' N. lat. 123° 04.71' W. long.;
38° 18.56' N. lat. 123° 04.33' W. long.; and
38° 18.71' N. lat. 123° 04.15' W. long.

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Point Reyes Headlands State Marine Conservation Area. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, a distance of 1000 feet seaward of mean lower low water and the following points:

- 37° 59.73' N. lat. 123° 01.46' W. long.;
- 37° 59.73' N. lat. 123° 01.68' W. long.;
- 37° 59.40' N. lat. 122° 57.60' W. long.;
- 37° 59.40' N. lat. 122° 57.81' W. long.

Estero de Limantour State Marine Conservation Area. This area consists of waters below the mean high tide line within Estero de Limantour eastward of a line drawn between the following two points:

- 38° 01.97' N. lat. 122° 55.97' W. long.;
- 38° 02.33' N. lat. 122° 55.97' W. long.

Año Nuevo State Marine Conservation Area. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and a distance of 200 feet seaward of mean lower low water between the following two points:

- 37° 10.00' N. lat. 122° 21.80' W. long.;
- 37° 08.70' N. lat. 122° 21.00' W. long.

The area then continues southward bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 37° 08.70' N. lat. 122° 21.00' W. long.;
- 37° 04.70' N. lat. 122° 21.00' W. long.;
- 37° 04.70' N. lat. 122° 16.20' W. long.

Natural Bridges State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and a distance of 200 feet seaward of mean lower low water between the following two points:

- 36° 57.90' N. lat. 122° 07.65' W. long.;
- 36° 57.00' N. lat. 122° 03.50' W. long.

Elkhorn Slough State Marine Reserve. This area includes the waters below mean high tide within Elkhorn Slough lying east of longitude 121°46.40'W and south of latitude 36°50.50'N.

Moro Cojo Slough State Marine Reserve. This area includes the waters within Moro Cojo Slough below mean high tide and east of the Highway 1 Bridge and west of the crossing of the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks.

Lovers Point State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, and the following points in the order listed:

- 36° 37.10' N. lat. 121° 54.09' W. long.;
- 36° 37.25' N. lat. 121° 53.78' W. long.;
- 36° 37.38' N. lat. 121° 53.85' W. long.;
- 36° 37.60' N. lat. 121° 54.75' W. long.;
- 36° 37.60' N. lat. 121° 54.91' W. long.

Asilomar State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 36° 38.22' N. lat. 121° 56.15' W. long.;
- 36° 38.90' N. lat. 121° 56.60' W. long.;
- 36° 36.60' N. lat. 121° 57.50' W. long.

Carmel Pinnacles State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 36° 33.65' N. lat. 121° 57.60' W. long.;
- 36° 33.65' N. lat. 121° 58.50' W. long.;
- 36° 33.10' N. lat. 121° 58.50' W. long.;
- 36° 33.10' N. lat. 121° 57.60' W. long.;
- 36° 33.65' N. lat. 121° 57.60' W. long.

Carmel Bay State Marine Conservation Area. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

36° 33.65' N. lat. 121° 57.10' W. long.;
36° 31.70' N. lat. 121° 56.30' W. long.; and
36° 31.70' N. lat. 121° 55.55' W. long.

Point Lobos State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

36° 31.70' N. lat. 121° 55.55' W. long.;
36° 31.70' N. lat. 121° 58.25' W. long.;
36° 28.88' N. lat. 121° 58.25' W. long.; and
36° 28.88' N. lat. 121° 56.30' W. long.

Point Sur State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

36° 18.40' N. lat. 121° 54.10' W. long.;
36° 18.40' N. lat. 121° 56.00' W. long.;
36° 15.00' N. lat. 121° 52.50' W. long.; and
36° 15.00' N. lat. 121° 50.25' W. long.

Big Creek State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

36° 07.20' N. lat. 121° 38.00' W. long.;
36° 07.20' N. lat. 121° 39.00' W. long.;
36° 05.20' N. lat. 121° 38.00' W. long.;
36° 05.20' N. lat. 121° 41.25' W. long.;

thence southward along the three nautical mile offshore boundary to

36° 02.65' N. lat. 121° 39.70' W. long.; and
36° 02.65' N. lat. 121° 35.13' W. long.

Piedras Blancas State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

35° 42.85' N. lat. 121° 18.95' W. long.;
35° 42.85' N. lat. 121° 21.00' W. long.;
35° 39.15' N. lat. 121° 18.50' W. long.; and
35° 39.15' N. lat. 121° 14.45' W. long.

White Rock (Cambria) State Marine Conservation Area. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

35° 32.85' N. lat. 121° 05.85' W. long.;
35° 32.85' N. lat. 121° 06.70' W. long.;
35° 30.50' N. lat. 121° 05.00' W. long.; and
35° 30.50' N. lat. 121° 03.40' W. long.

Morro Bay State Marine Reserve. This area includes the area below mean high tide line within Morro Bay east of longitude 120° 50.34' W.

Point Buchon State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

35° 15.25' N. lat. 120° 54.00' W. long.;
35° 15.25' N. lat. 120° 56.00' W. long.;
35° 11.00' N. lat. 120° 52.40' W. long.; and
35° 13.30' N. lat. 120° 52.40' W. long.

Vandenberg State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

34° 44.65' N. lat. 120° 37.75' W. long.;
34° 44.65' N. lat. 120° 40.00' W. long.;
34° 33.25' N. lat. 120° 40.00' W. long.; and
34° 33.25' N. lat. 120° 37.25' W. long.

Richardson Rock (San Miguel Island) State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line of Richardson Rock and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed except where noted:

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34° 07.905' N. lat. 120° 28.200' W. long.;
 34° 02.211' N. lat. 120° 28.200' W. long.;
 34° 02.211' N. lat. 120° 31.467' W. long.; thence northward along the three
 nautical mile offshore boundary to
 34° 07.905' N. lat. 120° 28.200' W. long."

Harris Point (San Miguel Island) State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

34° 03.160' N. lat. 120° 23.300' W. long.;
 34° 09.285' N. lat. 120° 23.300' W. long.; thence southeastward along the three
 nautical mile offshore boundary to
 34° 06.322' N. lat. 120° 18.400' W. long.; and
 34° 01.755' N. lat. 120° 18.400' W. long.

An exemption to the reserve, where commercial and recreational take of living marine resources is allowed, exists between the mean high tide line in Cuyler Harbor and a straight line between the following points:

34° 03.554' N. lat. 120° 21.311' W. long.; and
 34° 02.908' N. lat. 120° 20.161' W. long.

Judith Rock State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed except where noted:

34° 01.802' N. lat. 120° 26.600' W. long.;
 33° 58.508' N. lat. 120° 26.600' W. long.; thence eastward along the three nautical
 mile offshore boundary to
 33° 58.510' N. lat. 120° 25.300' W. long.; and
 34° 01.618' N. lat. 120° 25.300' W. long.

Carrington Point State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

34° 01.296' N. lat. 120° 05.200' W. long.;
 34° 04.000' N. lat. 120° 05.200' W. long.;
 34° 04.000' N. lat. 120° 01.000' W. long.;
 34° 00.500' N. lat. 120° 01.000' W. long.; and
 34° 00.500' N. lat. 120° 02.930' W. long.

Skunk Point State Marine Reserve (Santa Rosa Island). This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

33° 59.000' N. lat. 119° 58.808' W. long.;
 33° 59.000' N. lat. 119° 58.000' W. long.;
 33° 57.100' N. lat. 119° 58.000' W. long.; and
 33° 57.100' N. lat. 119° 58.257' W. long.

South Point (Santa Rosa Island) State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed except where noted:

33° 55.014' N. lat. 120° 10.000' W. long.;
 33° 51.506' N. lat. 120° 10.000' W. long.; thence eastward along the three nautical
 mile offshore boundary to
 33° 50.657' N. lat. 120° 06.500' W. long.;
 33° 53.800' N. lat. 120° 06.500' W. long.; and
 33° 53.800' N. lat. 120° 06.544' W. long.

Painted Cave State Marine Conservation Area (Santa Cruz Island). This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed except where noted:

34° 04.492' N. lat. 119° 53.000' W. long.;
 34° 05.200' N. lat. 119° 53.000' W. long.; thence eastward along a line one
 nautical mile offshore to
 34° 05.000' N. lat. 119° 51.000' W. long.; and
 34° 04.034' N. lat. 119° 51.000' W. long.

Gull Island State Marine Reserve (Santa Cruz Island). This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and the following points except where noted:

33° 58.065' N. lat. 119° 50.967' W. long.;
33° 58.000' N. lat. 119° 51.000' W. long.;
33° 58.000' N. lat. 119° 53.000' W. long.;
33° 55.449' N. lat. 119° 53.000' W. long.; thence eastward along the three nautical mile offshore boundary to
33° 54.257' N. lat. 119° 48.000' W. long.; and
33° 57.756' N. lat. 119° 48.000' W. long.

Scorpion State Marine Reserve (Santa Cruz Island). This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed except where noted:

34° 02.958' N. lat. 119° 35.500' W. long.;
34° 06.202' N. lat. 119° 35.500' W. long.; thence eastward along the three nautical mile offshore boundary to
34° 06.245' N. lat. 119° 32.800' W. long.; and
34° 02.700' N. lat. 119° 32.800' W. long.

Santa Barbara Island State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed except where noted:

33° 28.500' N. lat. 119° 01.847' W. long.;
33° 28.500' N. lat. 118° 58.051' W. long.; thence along the three nautical mile offshore boundary to
33° 24.842' N. lat. 119° 02.200' W. long.; and
33° 27.973' N. lat. 119° 02.200' W. long.

Anacapa Island State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed except where noted:

34° 00.417' N. lat. 119° 24.600' W. long.;
34° 04.002' N. lat. 119° 24.600' W. long.; thence eastward along the three nautical mile offshore boundary to
34° 04.033' N. lat. 119° 21.400' W. long.;
34° 01.000' N. lat. 119° 21.400' W. long.; and
34° 00.960' N. lat. 119° 21.449' W. long.

Anacapa Island State Marine Conservation Area. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed except where noted:

34° 00.828' N. lat. 119° 26.623' W. long.;
34° 00.800' N. lat. 119° 26.700' W. long.;
34° 03.940' N. lat. 119° 26.700' W. long.; thence eastward along the three nautical mile offshore boundary to
34° 04.002' N. lat. 119° 24.600' W. long.; and
34° 00.417' N. lat. 119° 24.600' W. long.

Footprint (Anacapa Channel) State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed except where noted:

33° 59.300' N. lat. 119° 30.965' W. long.;
33° 57.510' N. lat. 119° 30.965' W. long.; thence eastward along the three nautical mile offshore boundary to
33° 57.264' N. lat. 119° 25.987' W. long.;
33° 59.300' N. lat. 119° 25.987' W. long.; and
33° 59.300' N. lat. 119° 30.965' W. long.

Anacapa Island Special Closure. No net or trap may be used in waters less than 20 feet deep off the Anacapa Islands commonly referred to as Anacapa Island.

A brown pelican fledgling area is designated from the mean high tide mark seaward to a water depth of 20 fathoms (120 feet) on the north side of West Anacapa Island between a line

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extending 000° True off Portuguese Rock (34° 00.91' N. lat. 119° 25.26' W. long.) to a line extending 000° True off the western edge of Frenchy's Cove (34° 00.4' N. lat. 119° 24.6' W. long.), a distance of approximately 4,000 feet. No person except department employees or employees of the National Park Service in the performance of their official duties shall enter this area during the period January 1 to October 31.

Big Sycamore Canyon State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the 5-fathom depth contour, the 20-fathom depth contour, and the following points:

- 34° 04.79' N. lat. 119° 02.03' W. long.;
- 34° 03.92' N. lat. 119° 02.70' W. long.;
- 34° 02.97' N. lat. 119° 00.00' W. long.; and
- 34° 03.86' N. lat. 119° 00.00' W. long.

Catalina Marine Science Center State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 33° 26.65' N. lat. 118° 29.33' W. long.;
- 33° 26.83' N. lat. 118° 29.13' W. long.;
- 33° 26.96' N. lat. 118° 28.56' W. long.;
- 33° 26.92' N. lat. 118° 28.53' W. long.; and
- 33° 26.87' N. lat. 118° 28.62' W. long.

Special Closure: Arrow Point to Lion Head Point (Catalina Island) Invertebrate Area.

This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, a distance of 1000 feet seaward of mean lower low water, and the following points:

- 33° 28.64' N. lat. 118° 32.33' W. long.;
- 33° 28.82' N. lat. 118° 32.33' W. long.;
- 33° 27.25' N. lat. 118° 29.90' W. long.; and
- 33° 27.18' N. lat. 118° 30.07' W. long.

Lover's Cove State Marine Conservation Area. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, a distance of 100 yards seaward of mean lower low water, and the following points:

- 33° 20.64' N. lat. 118° 19.25' W. long.;
- 33° 20.67' N. lat. 118° 19.20' W. long.;
- 33° 20.59' N. lat. 118° 18.94' W. long.; and
- 33° 20.56' N. lat. 118° 18.98' W. long.

Heisler Park State Marine Reserve. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 33° 32.66' N. lat. 117° 47.61' W. long.;
- 33° 32.53' N. lat. 117° 47.66' W. long.;
- 33° 32.43' N. lat. 117° 47.26' W. long.; and
- 33° 32.56' N. lat. 117° 47.30' W. long.

Agua Hedionda Lagoon State Marine Reserve. This area consists of waters below the mean high tide line within the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Ecological Reserve.

La Jolla State Marine Conservation Area. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 32° 51.86' N. lat. 117° 15.28' W. long.;
- 32° 51.86' N. lat. 117° 16.25' W. long.;
- 32° 51.22' N. lat. 117° 16.17' W. long.; and
- 32° 51.07' N. lat. 117° 16.40' W. long.

Public Health Advisories and Guidance on Sport Fish Consumption

Fish are nutritious and good for you to eat. They are an excellent source of protein and beneficial fats, and are recommended as part of a healthy, balanced diet. The American Heart Association recommends healthy adults eat at least two servings of fish a week. It is important, however, to choose your fish wisely.

The information presented here is from the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHa). OEHHa recommends that you choose fish to eat that are low in mercury and other contaminants and high in beneficial fats. Fish species such as trout, salmon, bass, sardines, and anchovies generally contain higher levels of these fats (called "omega-3s") than other species. The following "safe eating guidelines" are provided to show which fish species have high levels of mercury or other chemicals and whose consumption should be restricted or avoided altogether, as well as fish that are low in contaminants and may be consumed frequently as part of a healthy diet.

For more information on advisories and the health effects of chemical contaminants in fish, and to stay current on updates, please check the OEHHa Web site at www.oehha.ca.gov (click on "Fish") or contact the Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch (PETB) of OEHHa in Sacramento (P.O. Box 4010, Sacramento, CA 95812-4010, Phone 916/327-7319 or FAX 916/327-7320) or Oakland (1515 Clay Street, 16th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612, Phone 510/622-3170 or FAX 510/622-3218).

General Advice

You can reduce your exposure to chemical contaminants in sport fish by following the recommendations below. Follow as many of them as you can to increase your health protection. This general advice is not meant to take the place of advisories for specific areas, which follow later in this booklet, but should be followed in addition to them. Sport fish in many water bodies in the state have not been evaluated for their safety for human consumption. This is why we recommend following the general advice given below.

Fishing Practices

Chemical levels can vary from place to place. Your overall exposure to chemicals is likely to be lower if you eat fish from a variety of places rather than from one usual spot that might have high contamination levels.

Be aware that OEHHa may issue new advisories or revise existing ones. Consult the Department of Fish and Game regulations booklet or check with OEHHa on a regular basis to see if there are any changes that could affect you.

Consumption Guidelines

Fish Species: Some fish species have higher chemical levels than others in the same location. If possible, eat smaller amounts of several different types of fish rather than a large amount of one type that may be high in contaminants.

Fish Size: Smaller fish of a species will usually have lower chemical levels than larger fish in the same location because some chemicals may accumulate as the fish grows. It is advisable to eat smaller fish (of legal size).

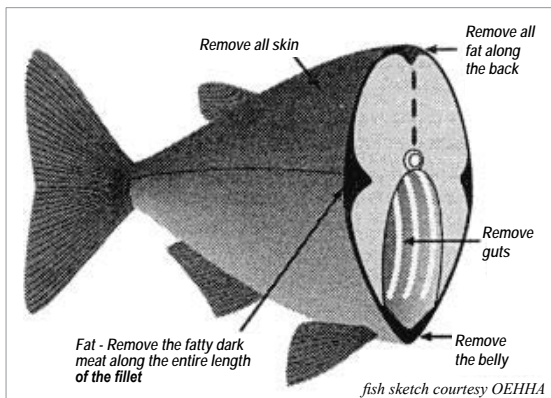
Fish Preparation and Consumption

❖ Eat only the fillet portions of fish. Do not eat the guts and liver because chemicals usually concentrate in those parts. Also, avoid frequent consumption of any reproductive parts such as eggs or roe.

❖ Eat the meat of crabs – not their internal organs – because, in general, other chemical contaminants (such as pesticides and PCBs) are more likely to accumulate in the organs. Do not eat the soft "green stuff" (called "crab butter," mustard, tomalley, liver, or hepatopancreas) that is found in the body section of crabs.

❖ Raw fish may be infested with parasites. Cook fish thoroughly to destroy the parasites.

❖ Follow specific preparation and cooking instructions given in those advisories where PCBs or pesticides are present in high levels.



Advice for Women Ages 18-45, including Pregnant and Nursing Women, and Children 1-17 Years

Children and fetuses are more sensitive to the toxic effects of methylmercury, the form of mercury of health concern in fish. For this reason, OEHHA's advisories that are based on mercury provide special advice for women ages 18-45 and children 1-17 years.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a joint Federal Advisory for Mercury in Fish, which advises women who are pregnant or might become pregnant, nursing mothers, and young children not to eat shark, swordfish, king mackerel, or tilefish. The federal advisory also recommends that this population eat up to two average meals each week (a total of 12 ounces cooked fish) of a variety of fish purchased in stores or restaurants. For local water bodies, check local advisories. If no advice is available, eat up to one meal (6 ounces after cooking) per week of fish you catch from local waters, but don't consume any other fish during that week.

The federal advisory can be found at www.epa.gov/waterscience/fishadvice/advice.html.

Adjusting Fish Meal Size for Body Weight

Meal size depends on body weight. Meals are based on a 160-pound adult eating 8 ounces of fish (6 ounces after cooking) – about the size of two decks of cards. You could eat two 4-ounce fish meals in place of one 8-ounce meal. If you weigh less than 160 pounds, eat smaller portions of fish. Serve smaller meals to children – about half as much as adults for children 12 and under.

SAFE EATING GUIDELINES FOR SPECIFIC WATER BODIES

Please note that OEHHA has updated the following advisories. All consumption guidelines in the tables below are based on mercury in fish unless otherwise noted. Fish consumption recommendations in the following tables are provided as the number of servings per week.

The following general guidelines apply to the specific advisories that follow:

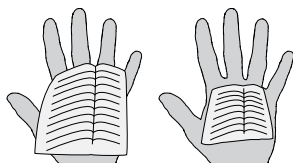
- ❖ Eating sport fish in amounts slightly greater than what is recommended should not present a health hazard if only done occasionally, such as eating fish caught during an annual vacation.
- ❖ The consumption guidelines that follow for each species and area assume that no other contaminated fish are being eaten. If you eat several different listed species from the same area or the same species from several areas, your total consumption still should not exceed the recommended amount. One simple approach is to use the lowest recommended amount as a guideline to consumption. For example, if you eat a fish from the one-serving-per-week category, do not eat other fish that week.
- ❖ The following safe eating guidelines, arranged generally from north to south, are for marine waters only. OEHHA's guidelines for freshwater and estuarine waters can be found in the California Department of Fish and Game Freshwater Sport Fishing Regulations at www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations.

Tomales Bay (Marin County)
Because of elevated levels of mercury, PCBs, and other chemicals, the following interim advisory* has been issued. (see table, right)

San Francisco Bay and Delta Region

Because of elevated levels of mercury, PCBs, and other chemicals, the following interim advisory* has been issued.

What is a serving?



For Adults

For Children

The recommended serving of fish is about the size and thickness of your hand. Give children smaller servings.

TOMALES BAY (Marin County)	FISH SPECIES	Women ages 18-45 and chil- dren 1-17 years	Women over 45 years and men over 17 years
	Brown smoothhound shark	0	0
	Leopard shark or	0	1
	Pacific angel shark or	0	1
	Bat rays or	0	1
	California halibut or	1	3
	Red rock crab or	1	3
	Surfperches or	2	7
	Jacksmelt	3	7

- ❖ Men over 17 years and women over 45 years should eat no more than two servings per month of San Francisco Bay sport fish, including sturgeon and striped bass caught in the Delta. They should not eat any striped bass over 35 inches.
- ❖ Women ages 18-45 and children 1-17 years should not eat more than one serving of fish per month. In addition, they should not eat any striped bass over 27 inches or any shark.
- ❖ This advisory does not apply to salmon, anchovies, herring, and smelt caught in the bay; other sport fish caught in the ocean; or commercial fish. For freshwater species caught in the Delta, see the guidelines for the Sacramento River and Northern Delta and the Central and South Delta.
- ❖ Richmond Harbor Channel area: In addition to the above advice, no one should eat any croakers, surfperches, bullheads, gobies, or shellfish taken within the Richmond Harbor Channel area because of high levels of chemicals detected there.
- ❖ Many chemicals other than mercury are stored in the fat. To reduce the levels of these chemicals, skin the fish when possible and trim any visible fat.
- ❖ Use a cooking method such as baking, broiling, grilling, or steaming that allows the juices to drain away from the fish. The juices will contain chemicals and should be thrown away. If you make stews or chowders, use fillet parts.

*A final state advisory is being developed. Follow this advice in the interim.

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Fail to display your sport fishing license while you are actively fishing. (CCR T-14, Section 700)
- Use a sport fishing license that is not completely filled out. (CCR T-14, Section 705)
- Transfer any license, tag, stamp, permit, application or reservation to another person. (FGC, Section 1052)
- Use or possess any license, tag, stamp, permit, application or reservation that was not lawfully issued to the user. (FGC, Section 1052)
- Alter, mutilate deface, duplicate or counterfeit any license, tag, stamp, permit, application or reservation. (FGC, Section 1052)
- Fail to exhibit on demand all licenses, tags, stamps, permits, applications or reservations to any peace officer or authorized Department employee. (FGC, Section 2012)
- Fish without the required report card on a free fishing day. (CCR T-14, Section 1.74)
- Disturb the legal traps of another person. (FGC, Section 9002)
- Sell fish taken under the authority of a sport fishing license. (FGC, Section 7121)
- Cause the deterioration or waste of fish or game. (CCR T-14, Section 1.87)
- Use explosives in state waters inhabited by fish. (FGC, Section 5500)
- Not to allow the inspection, by a warden, of any boat, market, or receptacle, where fish or wildlife may be found. (FGC, Section 1006)
- Litter into or within 150 feet of state waters. (FGC, Section 5652)
- Possess fish in a condition that the size or species cannot be determined. (FGC, Sections 5508 and 5509)
- Use or possess any net in state waters except as is authorized. (FGC, Section 8603)
- Possess fish or wildlife taken unlawfully. (FGC, Section 2002)
- Take fish or wildlife in violation of any section of law. (FGC, Section 2000)

Southern California Locations between Pt. Dume and Dana Pt.

Twenty-four locations in this area of southern California have been tested. Because of DDTs and PCBs, advisories have been issued for the locations shown in the table that follows.

Southern California Locations—Pt. Dume to Dana Pt.

Site	Fish Species	Recommendation*
Point Dume/ Malibu off shore	White croaker	Do not consume
Malibu Pier	Queenfish	One serving a month
Short Bank	White croaker	One serving every two weeks
Redondo Pier	Corbina	One serving every two weeks
Point Vicente Palos Verdes-Northwest	White croaker	Do not consume
White's Point	White croaker	Do not consume
	Sculpin	One serving every two weeks+
	Rockfishes	One serving every two weeks+
	Kelp bass	One serving every two weeks+
Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbors (especially Cabrillo Pier)	White croaker	Do not consume
	Queenfish	One serving every two weeks+
	Black croaker	One serving every two weeks+
	Surfperches	One serving every two weeks+
Los Angeles/Long Beach Breakwater (ocean side)	White croaker	One serving a month+
	Queenfish	One serving a month+
	Surfperches	One serving a month+
	Black Croaker	One serving a month+
Belmont Pier Pier J	Surfperches	One serving every two weeks
Horseshoe Kelp	Sculpin	One serving a month+
	White croaker	One serving a month+
Newport Pier	Corbina	One serving every two weeks

A serving for a 150-pound adult is about six ounces. Figure about one ounce of consumption for each 20 pounds of body weight.

+ Consumption recommendation is for all listed species combined at the particular site.

DO YOUR PART TO HELP MANAGE CALIFORNIA'S MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHERIES!

You've just returned to the dock after a fun (and hopefully rewarding) day of ocean sport fishing. As you tie up the boat and get ready to disembark, a smiling person in a khaki shirt strolls down the dock, clipboard in hand, and asks about your trip. How was the fishing today? Catch any big ones?

More than likely, you've just met a recreational fishery sampler representing the California Department of Fish and Game and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, who is conducting a survey of saltwater anglers. The survey data that you provide helps biologists and fishery managers set fishing seasons that will help to conserve the fish species you caught today for generations to come.

Implemented in January 2004, the California Recreational Fisheries Survey (CRFS) is a tool that fishery managers use to estimate the total catch and fishing effort of marine recreational anglers in California. It is the first program developed to meet specific management needs for all of California's diverse recreational finfish fisheries. The CRFS incorporates many new concepts and improvements over the previous



CRFS sampler Shannon Walkenhauer interviews a fisherman.
DFG photo by Ed Roberts

method used to estimate marine recreational catch and effort, including increased field sampling levels, on-site estimates of private skiff effort, and dividing catch estimates into smaller geographic regions.

One way that the CRFS achieves better precision in catch estimates is by increasing the number of field interviews completed. To this end, the number of samplers conducting the survey was nearly doubled in

2004, resulting in more than triple the number of angler interviews at fishing sites statewide.

Another method used to estimate effort for some types of fishing is the angler license database, which replaced the random-digit-dialing telephone survey used prior to 2004. Fishery managers are confident that these methods are providing a more accurate picture of the recreational fishery, and in a more timely fashion.

However, the accuracy of the estimates generated by the CRFS depends heavily on the cooperation of California's marine recreational anglers. There are two ways that you can contribute to the accuracy of the data:

Cooperate with field samplers conducting the interview.

Because of increased efforts to complete more field interviews, your chances of being approached by a sampler upon completion of a fishing trip have increased, and avid anglers may even be interviewed several times per year. Because every fishing trip is unique – different target species, fishing locations, and catch – saltwater anglers are asked to cooperate each and every time they are approached by a CRFS sampler.

Provide your name and telephone number, if asked to do so, when you purchase your sport fishing license.

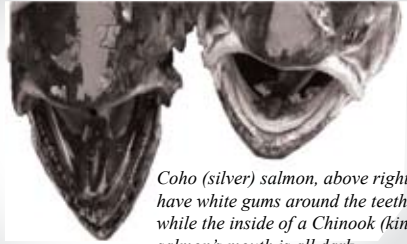
One in twenty anglers will be asked (when they purchase their license) to provide contact information to participate in a telephone survey. Anglers may be contacted randomly throughout the year and asked additional questions about their fishing habits. Data collected through this telephone survey are used to estimate fishing effort that cannot be estimated through field observations, such as night fishing and fishing from boats that depart from and return to private marinas. Your personal contact information is kept confidential.

The DFG is asking for the assistance of all marine recreational anglers. When approached after a day of fishing, or asked for information at the license counter, please do your part and participate in this important survey. Thank you!

SPORT FISHING SPECIAL ALERT FOR CALIFORNIA SALMON FISHERIES

The California coastal coho (silver) salmon has been designated as an endangered species under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). It is unlawful to fish for, capture, keep, or possess under any circumstances a California coastal coho salmon. Violation of the ESA may result in civil or criminal penalties.

Large numbers of coho salmon have been caught in California's ocean waters. Although it is likely that most of these salmon originated from hatcheries in the Columbia River basin, some of the fish are California coastal coho salmon which are protected under the ESA.



Coho (silver) salmon, above right, have white gums around the teeth, while the inside of a Chinook (king) salmon's mouth is all dark.
photo by CDFG Warden Bob Aldrich

Thus, the retention of any coho salmon is **PROHIBITED** in all California ocean fisheries. Please take the time to correctly identify each salmon caught before removing it from the water.

TO AVOID CONTACT WITH COHO SALMON:

- **Fish near shore** for chinook— coho are usually more offshore.
- **Use larger lures** that select for large chinook and reduce the coho catch.

REMINDERS for CPFV OWNERS AND OPERATORS and ANGLERS ON CPFVs

The cooperation of owners and operators of commercial passenger fishing vessels (CPFVs) has been critical to the success of the California Recreational Fisheries Survey (CRFS) since its inception in 2004. The data collected by CRFS is used to estimate the catch and effort of saltwater recreational anglers, and those catch and effort estimates are used to establish seasons and bag limits.

Onboard and dockside sampling of CPFVs will continue in 2009. CPFV operators are reminded that accurate catch and effort estimates depend on the catch and discard data collected by CRFS samplers while onboard CPFVs. In addition, CRFS samplers must observe both open and charter trips, and must gather effort data to ensure the best possible estimates.

Anglers are reminded that, by law (Section 105.5, Title 14, California Code of Regulations), owners or operators of CPFVs must carry and accommodate CRFS samplers on fishing trips when asked. CRFS samplers will ask to observe both charter and open fishing trips. If sampler coverage of a trip is denied by the owner or operator of the vessel, the Department may request a written explanation for the denial, and CPFV owners or operators who deny sampler coverage of a trip may have their fishing permits or licenses revoked.

Anglers are encouraged to answer CRFS samplers' questions; however, angler participation in the survey is voluntary. CRFS samplers will ask anglers onboard CPFVs about the species they intend to target, how often they fish, and the county in which they live. While anglers are fishing, CRFS samplers will collect data on the catch rate, the species composition of the catch, the fishing location and conditions, and length of fish that the anglers do not keep. After anglers have completed fishing for the day, CRFS samplers will record the lengths and weights of fish that were kept.

For more information about the CRFS, read the article on page 77 or visit the Department Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/crfs.asp. Links to fishing laws and regulations are available on the Department Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/regulations.asp. Recreational catch and effort estimates are available at www.recfin.org/crfs.htm.



The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME



**DECLARATION FOR ENTRY INTO CALIFORNIA
OF GAME, FISH, BIRDS OR ANIMALS**

Description	Number	Pounds
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

The above species of fish and/or game were legally taken and possessed by _____ in the County of _____, State of _____. It is illegal to import any animal for commercial purposes prohibited by California law or regulation.

Hunting License Number _____

Angling License Number _____

Vehicle License Number _____

Game Tag Number _____

Signature _____

Address _____

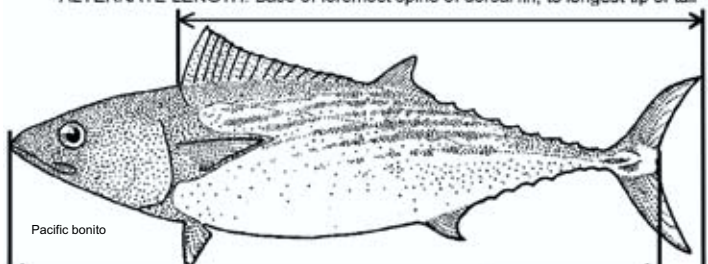
City _____

Entry into California via Highway _____

Date of Entry _____

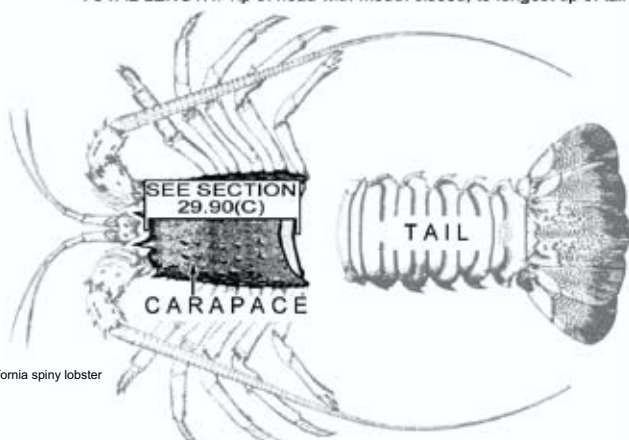
MEASUREMENT METHODS

ALTERNATE LENGTH: Base of foremost spine of dorsal fin, to longest tip of tail

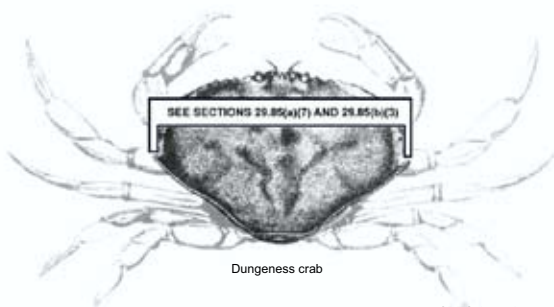


FORK LENGTH: Tip of head with mouth closed, to fork of tail (FL)

TOTAL LENGTH: Tip of head with mouth closed, to longest tip of tail (TL)



California spiny lobster



Dungeness crab



Pismo clam

CDFG Artwork

831-649-2801

*Recreational
Groundfish
Regulations Hotline*

www.dfg.ca.gov/marine

*Marine Region
Web Site*

707-576-3429

*Recreational
Ocean Salmon
Regulations Hotline*



Table of Applicable Sportfishing Regulations for Marine Finfish by Species for 2009

Listed in alphabetical order by species; references regulations pertaining to all species specifically mentioned in the 2009 California Ocean Sport Fishing Regulations booklet and Title 14, CCR.



Species	Individual Daily Bag and Possession Limit	Size Limit	Seasonal Closures, Area Closures and Depth Restrictions	Marine Protected Areas	Fillet Length At Sea	Skin Requirement At Sea	Gear Restrictions or Methods of Take
Anchovy, northern	Sec. 27.60(b)	–	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.80, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Barracuda, California	Sec. 27.60(a)	Sec. 28.25	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(2)	Sec. 27.65(b)(2)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Bass, giant sea (a.k.a. black sea bass)	Sec. 28.10(a) and (b)	May not be taken off California; Sec. 28.10(a), 28.90 and 28.95					
Basses: kelp, barred sand and spotted sand	Sec. 28.30(b)	Sec. 28.30(a)	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(1)	Sec. 27.65(b)(1)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Bass, striped	Sec. 27.85(b)	Sec. 27.85(c)(1) and (2)	Sec. 27.85(a)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.85(d), 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Bonito, Pacific	Sec. 28.32(a)	Sec. 28.32 (b)	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(5)	Sec. 27.65(b)(5)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Butterfish, Pacific (a.k.a. Pacific pompano)	Sec. 27.60(b)	–	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Cabezon¹	Sec. 28.28(b)	Sec. 28.28(c)	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.28(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Coastal Pelagic Species as defined in Sec. 1.39	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	Sec. 632	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species
Cod, Pacific¹	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.57(c)	–	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.57(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Codling¹	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.53(c)	–	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.53(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Dolphinfish (a.k.a. dorado)	Sec. 27.60(a)	–	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Fish, Other¹ as defined in Sec. 1.91(a)(11)	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	Sec. 632	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species

Species	Individual Daily Bag and Possession Limit	Size Limit	Seasonal Closures, Area Closures and Depth Restrictions	Marine Protected Areas	Fillet Length At Sea	Skin Requirement At Sea	Gear Restrictions or Methods of Take
Flatfish, Federally Managed¹ as defined in Sec. 1.91(a)(9)	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.49(c)	–	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.49(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Flatfish, Other¹ as defined in Sec. 1.91(a)(10)	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.48(c)	–	Sec. 28.48(a)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Garibaldi	Take or possession PROHIBITED ; Sec. 28.05, 28.90, and 28.95						
Greenlings: kelp and rock¹ (a.k.a. sea trout)	Sec. 28.29(b)	Sec. 28.29(c)	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.29(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Groundfish, Federal¹ as defined in Sec. 1.91(a)	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; See regulations for individual species	Sec. 632	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species
Groupers: gulf and broomtail	Take or possession PROHIBITED ; Sec. 28.12, 28.90 and 28.95						
Grunion, California	Sec. 27.60(b)	–	Sec. 28.00	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 29.00
Halibut, California	Sec. 28.15(a)	Sec. 28.15(b)	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(6) and (c)	Sec. 27.65(b)(6) and (c)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Halibut, Pacific	Sec. 28.20(b)	Sec. 28.20(c)	Sec. 28.20(a)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Herring, Pacific	Sec. 27.60(b)	–	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.80, 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Herring, round	Sec. 27.60(b)	–	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.80, 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Highly Migratory Species as defined in Sec. 1.49	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	–	Sec. 632	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species
Jacksmelt	Sec. 27.60(b)	–	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91, and 28.95
Lingcod¹	Sec. 28.27(b)	Sec. 28.27(c)	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.27(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(3)	Sec. 27.65(b)(3)	Sec. 28.27(d), 28.65(c), 28.90 28.91 and 28.95

Species	Individual Daily Bag and Possession Limit	Size Limit	Seasonal Closures, Area Closures and Depth Restrictions	Marine Protected Areas	Fillet Length At Sea	Skin Requirement At Sea	Gear Restrictions or Methods of Take
Mackerel, jack (a.k.a. Spanish mackerel)	Sec. 27.60(b)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Mackerel, Pacific (a.k.a. chub mackerel)	Sec. 27.60(b)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Marlin: black, blue and striped	Sec. 28.50	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Mudsucker, longjaw	Sec. 27.60(a)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.75, 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Prickleback, monkeyface (a.k.a. monkeyface eel)	Sec. 27.60(a)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Queenfish (a.k.a. herring)	Sec. 27.60(b)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Ratfish ¹	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.53(c)	—	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.53(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Rattail ¹	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.53(c)	—	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.53(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
RCG Complex ¹ (Rockfishes, Cabezon and Greenlings) as defined in Sec. 1.91(b)	Sec. 28.28(b), 28.29(b) and 28.55(b)	Sec. 28.28(c), 28.29(c) and 28.55(c)	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.28(a)(1) through (7), 28.29(a)(1) through (7), and 28.55(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(8) and (c)	Sec. 27.65(b)(8) and (c)	Sec. 28.55(d), 28.65(c), 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Rockfish, bocaccio ¹ (a.k.a. salmon grouper)	Sec. 28.55(b)(2) and (3)	Sec. 28.55(c)	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.55(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 28.55(d), 28.65(c), 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Rockfishes: bronzespotted, canary, cowcod and yelloweye ¹	Take or possession PROHIBITED ; Sec. 28.55(b)(1)						
Rockfishes, nearshore ¹ as defined in Sec. 1.90 and 1.91(a)(1)	Sec. 28.55(b)	—	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.55(a)(1) through(7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 28.55(d), 28.65(c), 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95

Species	Individual Daily Bag and Possession Limit	Size Limit	Seasonal Closures, Area Closures and Depth Restrictions	Marine Protected Areas	Fillet Length At Sea	Skin Requirement At Sea	Gear Restrictions or Methods of Take
Rockfishes, shallow nearshore¹ as defined in Sec. 1.90(e)	Sec. 28.55(b)	–	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.55(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 28.55(d), 28.65(c), 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Rockfishes, shelf¹ as defined in Sec. 1.91(a)(3)	Sec. 28.55(b)(2) and (3)	–	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.55(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 28.55(d), 28.65(c), 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Rockfishes, slope¹ as defined in Sec. 1.91(a)(4)	Sec. 28.55(b)(3)	–	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.55(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 27.65(b)(8)	Sec. 28.55(d), 28.65(c), 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Roundfish¹ as defined in Sec. 1.91(a)(7)	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	–	Sec. 632	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species
Sablefish¹ (a.k.a. black cod)	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.57(c)	–	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.57(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Salmon: king (a.k.a. chinook), pink, sockeye and chum as defined in Sec. 1.73	Sec. 27.80(c)(1) and (2)	Sec. 27.80(d)(1) and (2)	Sec. 27.75(a, b and c) and 27.80(b)(1), (2) and (3)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.80(a)(1) through (4), 28.65(e) and (g), 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Salmon, silver (a.k.a. coho)	Take or possession PROHIBITED ; Sec. 27.80(c)(2)						
Sanddabs, all except Pacific¹	Sec. 27.60(b)			Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Sardine, Pacific	Sec. 27.60(b)	–	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Scorpionfish, California¹ (a.k.a. sculpin)	Sec. 28.54(b)	Sec. 28.54(c)	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.54(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(9)	Sec. 27.65(b)(9)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Sculpin, Pacific staghorn (a.k.a. bullhead)	Sec. 27.60(b)	–	–	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.75, 28.80, 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Seabass, white	Sec. 28.35(c)	Sec. 28.35(a)	Sec. 28.35(b) and (c)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(4)	Sec. 27.65(b)(4)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95

Species	Individual Daily Bag and Possession Limit	Size Limit	Seasonal Closures, Area Closures and Depth Restrictions	Marine Protected Areas	Fillet Length At Sea	Skin Requirement At Sea	Gear Restrictions or Methods of Take
Sharks¹ as defined in Sec. 1.91(a)(5)	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	—	Sec. 632	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species
Shark, leopard¹	Sec. 28.56(b)	Sec. 28.56(c)	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.56(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Sharks: sixgill and sevengill	Sec. 28.41	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Sharks: blue, shortfin mako and thresher	Sec. 28.42	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Sharks: spiny dogfish and soupfin¹	28.51(c)	—	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.51(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Shark, white	Take or possession PROHIBITED ; Sec. 28.06, and 28.95						
Sheephead, California¹	Sec. 28.26(b)	Sec. 28.26(c)	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.26(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Skate: big, California and longnose¹ Sec. 1.91(a)(6)	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.52(c)	—	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.52(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Smelt, surf	Sec. 28.45	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.80, 28.85, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Steelhead	Take or possession PROHIBITED ; Sec. 27.70(b)						
Sturgeon, white	Sec. 27.90(b)	Sec. 27.90(c)	Sec. 27.90(a) and 27.95	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.90(d), 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Sturgeon, green	Take or possession PROHIBITED ; Sec. 27.91(a)						
Surfperches, general	Sec. 28.59(c)(1)	Sec. 28.59(d)	Sec. 28.59(b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Surfperch, redbill	Sec. 28.59(c)(1)	Sec. 28.59(d)	Sec. 28.59(b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Surfperch, shiner	Sec. 28.59(c)(2)	Sec. 28.59(d)	Sec. 28.59(b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.75, 28.80, 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Swordfish, broadbill	Sec. 28.40	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95

Species	Individual Daily Bag and Possession Limit	Size Limit	Seasonal Closures, Area Closures and Depth Restrictions	Marine Protected Areas	Fillet Length At Sea	Skin Requirement At Sea	Gear Restrictions or Methods of Take
Thornyheads: longspine and shortspine¹ Sec. 1.91(a)(8)	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.57(c)	—	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.57(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Topsmelt	Sec. 27.60(b)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.80, 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Trout (other than steelhead)	Sec. 27.70(b)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Tuna, albacore	Sec. 28.38(a)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Tuna, bluefin	Sec. 28.38(b)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Tuna, skipjack	Sec. 27.60(b) and 28.38(c)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Tunas: bigeye and yellowfin	Sec. 27.60(a)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Whitefish, ocean¹	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.58(c)	—	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.58(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(1)	Sec. 27.65(b)(1)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Whiting, Pacific¹ (a.k.a. Pacific hake)	Sec. 27.60(a) and 28.57(c)	—	Sec. 27.20 through 27.51; 28.57(a)(1) through (7)	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
Yellowtail	Sec. 28.37(a)	Sec. 28.37(b)	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(7)	Sec. 27.65(b)(7)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
All flatfish not listed above (e.g. diamond turbot)	Sec. 27.60(a)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 27.65(c)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95
All marine finfish not listed above (including, but not limited to: white croaker, opaleye, sargo and California lizardfish)	Sec. 27.60(a)	—	—	Sec. 632	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 27.65(b)(10)	Sec. 28.65, 28.90, 28.91 and 28.95

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¹ The Department may modify seasons, depth constraints gear restrictions, fillet requirements, and bag and size limits for any species of federally managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish and all greenlings.

A “—” indicates that this requirement for this species is covered under Section 29.05 (general take regulations).



Table of Applicable Sportfishing Regulations for Marine Shellfish by Species for 2009

Listed in alphabetical order by species; references regulations pertaining to all species specifically mentioned in the 2009 California Ocean Sport Fishing Regulations booklet and Title 14, CCR.



Species	Individual Daily Bag and Possession Limit	Size Limit	Seasonal Closures, Area Closures and Depth Restrictions	Marine Protected Areas	Gear Restrictions or Methods of Take
INVERTEBRATES: General	Sec. 29.05(a)	Sec. 29.05(a) and (c)	Sec. 29.05(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d)
All marine invertebrates not listed below (including only the following: limpets, turban snails, native oysters, octopuses, crabs, shrimp, sand dollars, sea urchins and worms)	Sec. 29.05	Sec. 29.05 and 29.10(b)	Sec. 29.05(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(c) and (d), 29.10(a), and Sec. 29.80
MOLLUSKS					
Abalone, red	Sec. 29.15(c)	Sec. 29.15(d) and (f) and 29.10(b)	Sec. 29.15(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.15(e)(g) and (h), 29.16 and 29.05(c)
Abalone: all other species	Take or possession PROHIBITED ; Sec. 29.15(c)				
Clams, general	Sec. 29.05(a) and 29.20(a)	Sec. 29.05(a) and (c), 29.10(b), and 29.20(a) and (d)	Sec. 29.05 (a) and (b) and 29.20(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d), 29.10(a), and 29.20(c)
Clams: gaper and Washington	Sec. 29.25	--	Sec. 29.20(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d), 29.10(a), and 29.20(c)
Clam, geoduck	Sec. 29.30	--	Sec. 29.20(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d), 29.10(a), and 29.20(c)
Clams: littleneck, soft-shell, chiones, northern quahogs, and cockles	Sec. 29.35(a)	Sec. 29.05(c), 29.10(b), 29.20(d), and 29.35(b)	Sec. 29.20(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d), 29.10(a), and 29.20(c)
Clam, Pismo	Sec. 29.40(b)	Sec. 29.05(c), 29.20(d) 29.40(c)	Sec. 29.2 (a) and (b) and 29.40(a) and (d)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d), 29.10(a), and 29.20(c)
Clam, razor	Sec. 29.45(b)	--	29.20(b) and 29.45(a)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d), 29.10(a), and 29.20(c)
Mussels	Sec. 29.55	--	CA Dept of Public Health Annual Mussel Quarantine Biotoxin Information Line 1-800-553-4133	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d) and 29.10(a)

Species	Individual Daily Bag and Possession Limit	Size Limit	Seasonal Closures, Area Closures and Depth Restrictions	Marine Protected Areas	Gear Restrictions or Methods of Take
Scallop, rock	Sec. 29.60 (a)	--	--	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d) and 29.60(b)
Scallop, speckled (bay)	Take or possession PROHIBITED ; Sec. 29.65				
Squid: market and jumbo	Sec. 29.70	--	--	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d), 29.10(a) and Sec. 29.70
Snail, moon	Sec. 29.71(a)	--	Sec. 29.71(b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.05(d) and 29.10(a)
CRUSTACEANS					
Crab, Dungeness (<i>Cancer magister</i>)	Sec. 29.85(a)(3)	Sec.29.05(c), 29.85(a)(7) and 29.85(c)	Sec. 29.85(a)(1) and (2)(A) and (B)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.85(a)(4), (5), and (6) and 29.80(a) through (e) and (g)
Crabs: genus <i>Cancer</i> (except Dungeness crabs)	Sec. 29.85(b)(2)	Sec. 29.05(c), 29.85(b)(3) and 29.85(c)	Sec. 29.85(b)(1)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.80(a) through (e) and (g)
Crab, sand	Sec. 29.85(d)	--	Sec. 29.05(a)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.80(h)
Shrimp, bay	Sec. 29.86	--	Sec. 29.05(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.80(a) and (f) through (j)
Shrimp: ghost and blue mud	Sec. 29.87	--	Sec. 29.05(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.80(a) and (f) through (j)
Shrimp, coonstripe	Sec. 29.88	--	Sec. 29.05(a) and (b)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.80(a) and (f) through (j)
Lobster, spiny	Sec. 29.90(b)	Sec. 29.05(c) and 29.90(c)	Sec. 29.90(a)	Sec. 632	Sec. 29.80(a), (b), and (g), and 29.90(d)

A "—" indicates that this requirement for this species is covered under Section 29.05 (general take regulations).

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Except for the species listed above, tidal invertebrates may not be taken in any tidepool or other areas between the high tide mark (defined as mean Higher High Tide) and 1,000 feet seaward and lateral to the low tide mark (defined as Mean Lower Low Water). (Section 29.05(b))

Department of Fish and Game Web Site – Useful Links

- California Ocean Sport Fishing Regulations Map
- California Saltwater Angling and Diving Records
- DFG Law Enforcement Division Web Page
- Finfish and Shellfish Identification
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Groundfish Central
- In-Season Ocean Fishing Regulation Changes for 2009
- Marine Life Protection Act Web Site
- Marine Management News, DFG Marine Region Newsletter
- Marine Region Electronic News Service Sign-up Page
- Ocean Fishing Information

www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/fishing_map.asp
www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/faqtrph3.asp
www.dfg.ca.gov/enforcement
www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/fishid.asp
www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/faqindx.asp
www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/groundfishcentral
www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/inseason2009.asp
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